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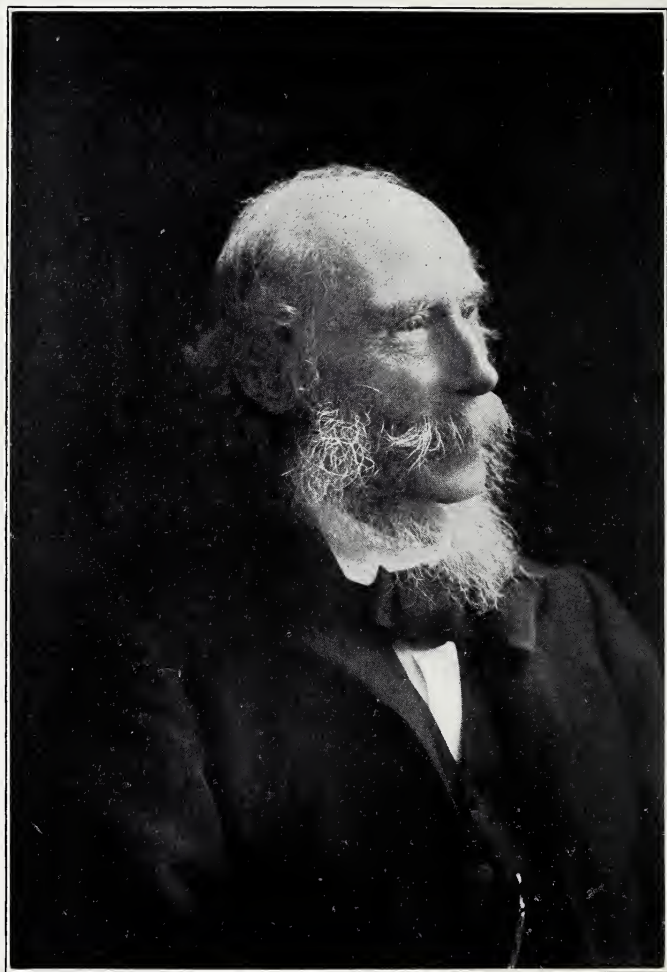
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WILFRID HUDLESTON HUDLESTON, M.A., F.R.S.

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

DORSET NATURAL HISTORY

AND

ANTIQUARIAN FIELD CLUB.

EDITED BY

C. W. H. DICKER.

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VOLUME XXXI.

---

*Dorchester :*

PRINTED AT THE "DORSET COUNTY CHRONICLE" OFFICE

1910



# 1413080

## CONTENTS.

	PAGE
List of Officers of the Club since its inauguration .. ..	v.
Rules of the Club .. .. .	vi.
List of Officers and Honorary Members .. .. .	xi.
List of Members .. .. .	xii.
List of New Members since the publication of Vol. XXX. ..	xxiv.
Publications of the Club; Societies in correspondence with the Field Club .. .. .	xxvii.
<b>THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB during the Season 1909-1910—</b>	
First Winter Meeting .. .. .	xxviii.
Second Winter Meeting .. .. .	xxx.
Annual Meeting .. .. .	xxxiii.
<b>MEETING AT THE VALLEY OF THE N.E. WINTERBOURNE</b> ..	
Winterbourne Stickland .. .. .	xxxvi.
Winterbourne Clenston Manor House .. .. .	xxxvii.
Winterbourne Clenston Church .. .. .	xxxviii.
Winterbourne Whitechurch .. .. .	xxxix.
Winterbourne Kingston .. .. .	xxxix.
Winterbourne Anderson .. .. .	xxxix.
Winterbourne Tomson .. .. .	xl.
Almer .. .. .	xl.
Sturminster Marshall .. .. .	xli.
<b>MEETING AT POOLE HARBOUR</b> ..	
Arne Church .. .. .	xlii.
<b>MEETING AT SALISBURY AND STONEHENGE</b> ..	
Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury .. .. .	xlvi.
St. Edmund's Church .. .. .	xlvi.
The Cathedral .. .. .	xlvi.
Old Sarum .. .. .	li.
Amesbury Priory Church .. .. .	li.
Stonehenge .. .. .	li.
<b>MEETING AT ABBOTSBURY AND BRIDPORT HARBOUR</b> ..	
Abbotsbury Castle .. .. .	liii.
Swyre Church .. .. .	liii.
Puncknowle .. .. .	liv.
Berwick .. .. .	lvi.
Burton Bradstock .. .. .	lvi.
The Geology of the Coast .. .. .	lvi.
The Hon. Secretary's Report .. .. .	lviii.
The Hon. Editor's Report .. .. .	lx.
Report of the Hon. Director of the Photographic Survey of Dorset	lxi.
The Hon. Treasurer's Statement of the Club's Receipts and Ex- penditure .. .. .	lxiii.
The Hon. Secretary's Account .. .. .	lxiv.
Anniversary Address of the President.. .. .	1
Notes on the Present Condition of the Dorset County Museum, by the Curator.. .. .	24
Some Dorset Privateers, by Henry Symonds .. .. .	30
On British Arachnida, noted and observed in 1909, by the Rev. O. Pickard-Cambridge, M.A., F.R.S., &c. .. .. .	47

9-1-64 44 9883  
 Reginald A336. (84 Vols)

	PAGE
The Birthplace of Matthew Prior, Scholar, Poet, and Diplomatist..	71
Dorset Chantries, by E. A. Fry .. .. .	85
The Normans in Dorset, by the Rev. C. W. H. Dicker .. ..	115
Returns of Rainfall, &c., in Dorset in 1909, by H. Stilwell ..	129
The Geology of the Purbeck Hills, by Dr. W. Theophilus Ord ..	141
Notes on a Large Boulder found at Branksome, Upper Parkstone, by the Rev. H. Shaen Solly, M.A. .. .. .	161
The Pitt Family of Blandford St. Mary, by Rev. A. C. Almack, M.A.	165
The Story of the Bettiscombe Skull, by J. S. Udal, F.S.A. ..	176
Weymouth and Melcombe Regis in the Time of the Great Civil War, by W. Bowles Barrett .. .. .	204
Short Report on the Excavations of Maumbury Rings of 1910, by H. St. George Gray .. .. .	232
Report on the First Appearances of Birds, Insects, &c., and First Flowering of Plants in Dorset during 1909, by Nelson M. Richardson, B.A. .. .. .	267
Some Recent Books, &c. .. .. .	281
Index to Volume XXXI. .. .. .	283

## INDEX TO PLATES AND ENGRAVINGS.

	PAGE OR TO FACE PAGE.
Wilfrid Hudleston Hudleston, M.A., F.R.S. .. .. .	Frontispiece
Dorset County Museum, 1910 .. .. .	24
Matthew Prior .. .. .	71
„ .. .. .	80
“Normans in Dorset ”—	
Examples at Wimborne Minster, Wynford Eagle, Studland, Worth Matravers, Dorchester St. Peter's, Piddletrenthide, Dewlish, also at Périers (Normandy) and Hangleton (Sussex) .. .. .	129
Piers at Sherborne, Maiden Newton, Godmanstone, Studland, Piddletrenthide, and Bere .. .. .	129
Studland Church in the 12th Century .. .. .	129
“The Geology of the Purbeck Hills ”—	
The Geological Structure of the Purbeck Hills in transverse section near their Eastern termination in Ballard Down ; the Purbeck Hills (Central Section) ; the Purbeck Hills (Western End). Diagrams illustrating the formation of the Purbeck Thrust Fault ; the original Monoclinial Fault ; the complete Fault .. .. .	142
Boulder found at Parkstone.. .. .	161
Bridehead Sarsen (I. and II.) .. .. .	163
Branksome Boulder (III. and IV.) .. .. .	163
Bettiscombe Skull and Bettiscombe House .. .. .	177
Montravers, Nevis ; Old Slave Dungeon, Montravers ..	189
Pedigree of the Pinney Family (British West Indies) ..	203

# The Dorset Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.

INAUGURATED MARCH 26TH, 1875.

## *Presidents :*

- 1875-1902—J. C. Mansel-Pleydell, Esq., B.A., F.G.S., F.L.S.  
 1902-1904—The Lord Eustace Cecil, F.R.G.S.  
 1904 \* Nelson M. Richardson, Esq., B.A.

## *Vice-Presidents :*

- 1875-1882—The Rev. H. H. Wood, M.A., F.G.S.  
 1875-1884—Professor James Buckman, F.S.A., F.G.S., F.L.S.  
 1880-1900—The Rev. Canon Sir Talbot Baker, Bart., M.A.  
 1880-1900—General Pitt-Rivers, F.R.S.  
 1880 \* The Rev. O. Pickard-Cambridge, M.A., F.R.S., F.Z.S.  
 1885 \* The Earl of Moray, M.A., F.S.A. Ed., F.G.S.  
 1892-1904—Nelson M. Richardson, Esq., B.A.  
 1900-1902 { \* The Lord Eustace Cecil, F.R.G.S.  
 1904 {  
 1900-1909—W. H. Hudleston, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., F.G.S., F.L.S., *Past Pres. Geol. Soc.*  
 1900-1904—Vaughan Cornish, Esq., D.Sc., F.C.S., F.R.G.S.  
 1900 \* Captain G. R. Elwes, J.P.  
 1902 \* H. Colley March, Esq., M.D., F.S.A.  
 1904 \* The Rev. Herbert Pentin, M.A.  
 1904 \* The Rev. W. Miles Barnes, B.A.  
 1904 \* The Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell, M.A., R.D.  
 1904-1908—R. Bosworth Smith, Esq., M.A.  
 1908-1909—Henry Storks Eaton, Esq., M.A., *Past Pres. Roy. Met. Soc.*  
 1909 \* The Rev. Canon C. H. Mayo, M.A., *Dorset Editor of "Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries."*  
 1909 \* E. R. Sykes, Esq., B.A., F.Z.S., *Past Pres. Malacological Soc.*

## *Hon. Secretaries :*

- 1875-1884—Professor James Buckman, F.S.A., F.G.S., F.L.S.  
 1885-1892—The Earl of Moray, M.A., F.S.A. Ed., F.G.S.  
 1892-1902—Nelson M. Richardson, Esq., B.A.  
 1902-1904—H. Colley March, Esq., M.D., F.S.A.  
 1904 \* The Rev. Herbert Pentin, M.A.

## *Hon. Treasurers :*

- 1875-1882—The Rev. H. H. Wood, M.A., F.G.S.  
 1882-1900—The Rev. O. Pickard-Cambridge, M.A., F.R.S., F.Z.S.  
 1901-1910—Captain G. R. Elwes, J.P.  
 1910 \* The Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell, M.A.

## *Hon. Editors :*

- 1875-1884—Professor James Buckman, F.S.A., F.G.S., F.L.S.  
 1885-1892—The Earl of Moray, M.A., F.S.A. Ed., F.G.S.  
 1892-1901—Nelson M. Richardson, Esq., B.A.  
 1901-1906—The Rev. W. Miles Barnes, B.A.  
 1906-1909—The Rev. Herbert Pentin, M.A.  
 1909 \* The Rev. C. W. H. Dicker.

The asterisk indicates the present officials of the Club.



# RULES

## OF

# THE DORSET NATURAL HISTORY AND ANTIQUARIAN FIELD CLUB.

---

### OBJECT AND CONSTITUTION.

1.—The Club shall be called The Dorset Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club, and shall have for a short title The Dorset Field Club.

The object of the Club is to promote and encourage an interest in the study of the Physical Sciences and Archæology generally, especially the Natural History of the County of Dorset and its Antiquities, Prehistoric records, and Ethnology. It shall use its influence to prevent, as far as possible, the extirpation of rare plants and animals, and to promote the preservation of the Antiquities of the County.

2.—The Club shall consist of (i.) three Officers, President, Honorary Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer, who shall be elected annually, and shall form the Executive body for its management; (ii.) Vice-Presidents, of whom the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer shall be two, *ex officio*; (iii.) The Honorary Editor of the Annual Volume of Proceedings; (iv.) Ordinary Members; (v.) Honorary Members. The President, Vice-Presidents, and Editor shall form a Council to decide questions referred to them by the Executive and to elect Honorary Members. The Editor shall be nominated by one of the incoming Executive and elected at the Annual Meeting.

There may also be one or more Honorary Assistant Secretaries, who shall be nominated by the Honorary Secretary, seconded by the President or Treasurer, and elected by the Members at the Annual Meeting.

Members may be appointed by the remaining Officers to fill interim vacancies in the Executive Body until the following Annual Meeting.

The number of the Club shall be limited to 400, power being reserved to the Council to select from the list of candidates persons, whose membership they may consider to be advantageous to the interests of the Club, to be additional Members.

### PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS.

3.—The President shall take the chair at all Meetings, and have an original and a casting vote on all questions before the Meeting. In addition to the two *ex-officio* Vice-Presidents, at least three others shall be nominated by the President, or, in his absence, by the Chairman, and elected at the Annual Meeting.



## HON. SECRETARY.

4.—The Secretary shall perform all the usual secretarial work; cause a programme of each Meeting to be sent to every Member seven days at least before such Meeting; make all preparations for carrying out Meetings and, with or without the help of a paid Assistant Secretary or others, conduct all Field Meetings. On any question arising between the Secretary (or Acting Secretary) and a Member at a Field Meeting, the decision of the Secretary shall be final.

The Secretary shall receive from each Member his or her share of the day's expenses, and thereout defray all incidental costs and charges of the Meeting, rendering an account of the same before the Annual Meeting to the Treasurer; any surplus of such collection shall form part of the General Fund, and any deficit be defrayed out of that Fund.

## HON. TREASURER.

5.—The Treasurer shall keep an account of Subscriptions and all other moneys of the Club received and of all Disbursements, rendering at the Annual General Meeting a balance sheet of the same, as well as a general statement of the Club's finances. He shall send copies of the Annual Volume of Proceedings for each year to Ordinary Members who have paid their subscriptions for that year (as nearly as may be possible, in the order of such payment), to Honorary Members, and to such Societies and individuals as the Club may, from time to time, appoint to receive them. He shall also furnish a list at each Annual Meeting, containing the names of all Members in arrear, with the amount of their indebtedness to the Club. He shall also give notice of their election to all New Members.

## ORDINARY MEMBERS.

6.—Ordinary Members are entitled to be present and take part in the Club's proceedings at all Meetings, and to receive the published "Proceedings" of the Club, when issued, for the year for which their subscription has been paid.

7.—Every candidate for admission shall be nominated in writing by one Member and seconded by another, to both of whom he must be personally known. He may be proposed at any Meeting, and his name shall appear in the programme of the first following Meeting at which a Ballot is held, when he shall be elected by ballot, one black ball in six to exclude. Twelve Members shall form a quorum for the purpose of election. A Ballot shall be held at the Annual and Winter Meetings, and may be held at any other Meeting, should the Executive so decide, notice being given in the programme. In the event of the number of vacancies being less than the number of candidates at four successive Meetings, the names of any candidates proposed at the first of such Meetings who have not been elected at one of them shall be withdrawn, and shall not be eligible to be again proposed for election for at least a year after such withdrawal. Provided that if at any Meeting there shall be no vacancies available, it shall not be counted in estimating the above named four Meetings.

8.—The Annual Subscription shall be 10s., which shall become due and payable in advance on the 1st of January in each year. Subscriptions paid on election after September in each year shall be considered as subscriptions for the following year, unless otherwise agreed upon by such Member and the Treasurer. Every Member shall pay immediately after his election the sum of ten shillings as Entrance Fee, in addition to his first Annual Subscription.

9.—No person elected a Member shall be entitled to exercise any privilege as such until he has paid his Entrance Fee and first Subscription, and no Member shall be entitled to receive a copy of the "Proceedings" for any year until his Subscription for that year has been paid.

10.—A registered letter shall be sent by the Hon. Treasurer to any Member whose Subscription is in arrear at the date of any Annual Meeting, demanding payment within 23 days, failing which he shall cease to be a Member of the Club, but shall, nevertheless, be liable for the arrears then due.

11.—Members desiring to leave the Club shall give notice of the same in writing to the Treasurer (or Secretary), but, unless such notice is given before the end of January in any year, they shall be liable to pay the Annual Subscription due to the Club on and after January 1st in that year.

#### HONORARY MEMBERS.

12.—Honorary Members shall consist of persons eminent for scientific or natural history attainments, and shall be elected by the Council. They pay no subscription, and have all the privileges of Ordinary Members, except voting.

#### MEETINGS.

13.—The Annual General Meeting shall be held as near the first week in May as may be convenient; to receive the outgoing President's Address (if any) and the Treasurer's financial report; to elect the Officers and Editor for the ensuing year; to determine the number (which shall usually be three or four), dates, and places of Field Meetings during the ensuing summer, and for general purposes.

14.—Two Winter Meetings shall usually be held in or about the months of December and February for the exhibition of Objects of Interest (to which not more than one hour of the time before the reading of the Papers shall be devoted), for the reading and discussion of Papers, and for general purposes.

The Dates and Places of the Winter and Annual Meetings shall be decided by the Executive.

15.—A Member may bring Friends to the Meetings subject to the following restrictions:—No person (except the husband, wife, or child of a Member), may attend the Meeting unaccompanied by the Member introducing him, unless such Member be prevented from attending by illness, and no Member may take with him to a *Field Meeting* more than one Friend, whose name and address must be submitted to the Hon. Secretary and approved by him or the Executive.

The above restrictions do not apply to the Executive or to the Acting Secretary at the Meeting.

16.—Members must give due notice (with prepayment of expenses) to the Hon. Secretary of their intention to be present, with or without a Friend, at any Field Meeting, in return for which the Secretary shall send to the Member a card of admission to the Meeting, to be produced when required. Any Member who, having given such notice, fails to attend, will be liable only for any expenses actually incurred on his account, and any balance will be returned to him on application. The sum of 1s., or such other amount as the Hon. Secretary may consider necessary, shall be charged to each person attending a Field Meeting, for Incidental Expenses.

17.—The Executive may at any time call a Special General Meeting of the Members upon their own initiative or upon a written requisition (signed by Eight Members) being sent to the Honorary Secretary. Any proposition to be submitted shall be stated in the Notice, which shall be sent to each Member of the Club not later than seven days before the Meeting.

#### PAPERS.

18.—Notice shall be given to the Secretary, a convenient time before each Meeting, of any motion to be made or any Paper or communication desired to be read, with its title and a short sketch of its scope or contents. The insertion of these in the Programme is subject to the consent of the Executive.

19.—The Publications of the Club shall be in the hands of the Executive, who shall appoint annually Three or more Ordinary Members to form with them and the Editor a Publication Committee for the purpose of deciding upon the contents of the Annual Volume. These contents shall consist of original papers and communications written for the Club, and either read, or accepted as read, at a General Meeting; also of the Secretary's Reports of Meetings, the Treasurer's Financial Statement and Balance Sheet, a list to date of all Members of the Club, and of those elected in the current or previous year, with the names of their proposers and seconders. The Annual Volume shall be edited by the Editor subject to the direction of the Publication Committee.

20.—Twenty-five copies of his paper shall be presented to each author whose communication shall appear in the volume as a separate article, on notice being given by him to the Publisher to that effect.

#### THE AFFILIATION OF SOCIETIES AND LIBRARIES TO THE CLUB.

21.—Any Natural History or Antiquarian Society in the County may be affiliated to the Dorset Field Club on payment of an annual fee of Ten Shillings, in return for which the annual volume of the Proceedings of the Field Club shall be sent to such Society.

Every affiliated Society shall send the programme of its Meetings to the Hon. Secretary of the Field Club, and shall also report any discoveries of exceptional interest. And the Field Club shall send its programme to the Hon. Secretary of each affiliated Society.

The Members of the Field Club shall not be eligible, *ipso facto*, to attend any Meetings of affiliated Societies, and the Members of any affiliated Society shall not be eligible, *ipso facto*, to attend any Meetings of the Field Club. But any Member of an affiliated Society shall be eligible to read a paper or make an exhibit at the Winter Meetings of the Field Club at Dorchester.

Any Public Library, or Club or School or College Library, in England or elsewhere, may be affiliated to the Dorset Field Club on payment of an annual fee of Ten Shillings, in return for which the annual volume of the Proceedings of the Field Club shall be sent to such Library.

#### SECTIONAL COMMITTEES.

22.—Small Committees may be appointed at the Annual General Meeting to report to the Club any interesting facts or discoveries relating to the various sections which they represent ; and the Committee of each section may elect one of their Members as a Corresponding Secretary.

#### NEW RULES.

23.—No alteration in or addition to these Rules shall be made except with the consent of a majority of three-fourths of the Members present at the Annual General Meeting, full notice of the proposed alteration or addition having been given both in the current Programme and in that of the previous Meeting.



# The Dorset Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.

INAUGURATED MARCH 26th, 1875.

## *President :*

NELSON M. RICHARDSON, Esq., B.A.

## *Vice-Presidents :*

THE LORD EUSTACE CECIL, F.R.G.S. (*Past President*).

THE REV. HERBERT PENTIN, M.A. (*Hon. Secretary*).

THE REV. J. C. M. MANSEL-PLEYDELL, M.A., R.D. (*Hon. Treasurer*).

CAPTAIN G. R. ELWES, J.P.

H. COLLEY MARCH, Esq., M.D., F.S.A.

THE REV. CANON MAYO, M.A., *Dorset Editor of "Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries."*

THE REV. W. MILES BARNES, B.A.

THE EARL OF MORAY, M.A., F.S.A. Ed., F.G.S.

THE REV. O. PICKARD-CAMBRIDGE, M.A., F.R.S., F.Z.S.

E. R. SYKES, Esq., B.A., F.Z.S. (*Past Pres. Malacological Society*).

## *Executive Body :*

NELSON M. RICHARDSON, Esq., B.A. (*President*).

The Rev. HERBERT PENTIN, M.A. (*Hon. Secretary*), Milton Abbey Vicarage, Blandford.

The Rev. J. C. M. MANSEL-PLEYDELL, M.A., (*Hon. Treasurer*), Sturminster Newton Vicarage, Dorset.

## *Hon. Editor :*

The Rev. C. W. H. DICKER, Pydeltrenthide Vicarage, Dorchester.

## *Publication Committee :*

The EXECUTIVE, The HON. EDITOR, H. B. MIDDLETON, Esq.,

Dr. COLLEY MARCH, and E. R. SYKES, Esq.

## *Hon. Director of the Dorset Photographic Survey :*

C. J. CORNISH-BROWNE, Esq., Came House, Dorchester.

## *Earthworks Sectional Committee :*

The Revs. C. W. H. DICKER and C. W. WHISTLER (*Corresponding Secretaries*).

## *Honorary Members :*

o.m. W. CAREUTHERS, Esq., Ph.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., F.L.S., British Museum (Nat. Hist.), South Kensington.

1888 The Rev. OSMOND FISHER, M.A., F.G.S., Graveley, Huntingdon.

1889 A. M. WALLIS, Esq., 29, Mallams, Portland.

1900 A. J. JUKES-BROWNE, Esq., B.A., F.R.S., F.G.S., Floriston, Torre, Torquay.

1900 R. LYDEKKER, Esq., F.R.S., The Lodge, Harpenden, Herts.

1900 CLEMENT REID, Esq., F.R.S., One Acre, Milford-on-Sea, Hants.

1900 A. SMITH WOODWARD, Esq., LL.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., British Museum (Nat. Hist.), South Kensington, London.

1904 Sir WM. THISELTON DYER, K.C.M.G., C.I.E., F.R.S., The Ferns, Witcombe, Gloucester.

1904 Sir FREDERICK TREVES, Bart., G.C.V.O., C.B., LL.D., Thatched House Lodge, Richmond Park, Kingston-on-Thames.

1908 THOMAS HARDY, Esq., O.M., LL.D., Max Gate, Dorchester.

1909 ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE, Esq., O.M., LL.D., D.C.L., F.R.S., Broadstone.



## LIST OF MEMBERS

OF THE

Dorset Natural History & Antiquarian  
Field Club.*Year of**Election.* (*The initials "O.M." signify "Original Member."*)

---

1903	The Most Hon. the Marquis of Salisbury	The Manor House, Cranborne
1903	The Most Hon. the Marchioness of Salisbury	The Manor House, Cranborne
O.M.	The Right Hon. the Earl of Moray, M.A., F.S.A. Ed., F.G.S. ( <i>Vice-President</i> )	Kinfauns Castle, Perth, N B.
1902	The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury	St. Giles, Wimborne
1884	The Right Hon. Lord Eustace Cecil, F.R.G.S. ( <i>Vice-President</i> )	Lytchett Heath, Poole
1903	The Right Hon. the Lady Eustace Cecil	Lytchett Heath, Poole
1904	The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Durham, D.D.	Auckland Castle, Bishop's Auckland
1890	The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Salisbury, D.D., LL.D.	The Palace, Salisbury
1892	The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Worcester, D.D., F.S.A.	Hartlebury Castle, Kidderminster
1889	The Right Hon. Lord Digby	Minterne, Dorchester
1895	The Right Hon. Lord Walsingham, F.R.S.	Merton Hall, Thetford, Norfolk
1903	The Right Hon. Lord Chelmsford	Governor's House, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
1907	The Right Hon. Lord Wynford	Wynford Eagle, Dorset
1907	The Right Hon. Lady Wynford	Wynford Eagle, Dorset
1910	Abbott, F. E., Esq.	Glendinning Avenue, Weymouth
1893	Acland, Captain John E., M.A.	Wollaston House, Dorchester
1892	Acton, Rev. Edward, B.A.	Iwerne Minster Vicarage, Blandford
1899	Aldridge, Mrs. Selina	Denewood, Alum Chine Road, Bournemouth
1907	Allner, Mrs. George	National Provincial Bank, Sturminster Newton

- 1908 Almack, Rev. A. C., M.A. The Rectory, Blandford St. Mary
- 1906 Atkins, F. T., Esq., M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P. Ed. Cathay, Alumhurst Road, Bournemouth
- 1907 Atkinson, George T., Esq., M.A. Durlston Court, Swanage
- 1907 Badcoe, A. C., Esq., B.Sc. County Offices, Dorchester
- 1902 Baker, Sir Randolph L., Bart., M.P. Ranston, Blandford
- 1887 Bankes, W. Albert, Esq. Wolfeton House, Dorchester
- 1884 Bankes, Eustace Ralph, Esq.,  
M.A., F.E.S. Norden House, Corfe Castle, Wareham
- 1887 Bankes, Rev. Canon, M.A. The Close, Salisbury
- 1906 Bankes, Mrs. Kingston Lacy, Wimborne
- 1902 Barkworth, Edmund, Esq. South House, Pydeltrentthide
- 1904 Barlow, Major C. M. Southcot, Charminster
- 1894 Barnes, Mrs. John Iles Summerhayes, Blandford
- 1889 Barnes, Rev. W. M., B.A. (*Vice-  
President*) Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester
- 1903 Barnes, F. J., Esq. Glenthorn, Weymouth
- 1903 Barnes, Mrs. F. J. Glenthorn, Weymouth
- 1884 Barrett, W. Bowles, Esq. 2, Belfield Terrace, Weymouth
- 1906 Barrow, Richard, Esq. Sorrento House, Sandecotes, Parkstone
- 1895 Bartelot, Rev. R. Grosvenor, M.A. Fordington St. George Vicarage,  
Dorchester
- 1886 Baskett, Rev. C. R. Monkton Rectory, Dorchester
- 1893 Baskett, S. R., Esq. Evershot
- 1904 Baskett, Mrs. S. R. Evershot
- 1910 Bates-Harbin, Rev. E. H., M.A. Newton Surmaville, Yeovil
- 1909 Batten, Colonel J. Mount, C.B.,  
Lord-Lieutenant of Dorset Up-Cerne House, Dorchester, and  
Mornington Lodge, West Kensington
- 1889 Batten, H. B., Esq. Aldon, Yeovil
- 1910 Baxter, W. H., Esq. The Wilderness, Sherborne
- 1910 Baxter, Mrs. W. H. The Wilderness, Sherborne
- 1888 Beckford, F. J., Esq. Witley, Parkstone
- 1908 Bennett-Stanford, Major J.,  
F.R.G.S., F.Z.S. Hatch House, Tisbury, Wilts
- 1910 Blackett, Rev. J. C., B.A. Gillingham
- 1910 Blomefield, Commander T. C. A.,  
R.N. 8, Old Castle Road, Weymouth
- 1903 Bond, Gerald Denis, Esq. Holme, Wareham
- 1906 Bond, Nigel de M., Esq., M.A. 83, Coleherne Court, London, S.W
- 1893 Bond, Wm. H., Esq. Tyneham, Wareham
- 1903 Bond, Wm. Ralph G., Esq. Tyneham, Wareham
- 1910 Bond, F. Bligh, Esq., F.R.I.B.A. 16, Brock Street, Bath
- 1894 Bonsor, Geo., Esq. The Gables, Spetisbury

1889	Bower, H. Syndercombe, Esq.	Fontmell Parva, Shillingstone, Blandford
1900	Bower, Rev. Charles H. S., M.A.	Childe Okeford Rectory, Shillingstone, Dorset
1898	Brandreth, Rev. F. W., M.A.	Buckland Newton, Dorchester
1901	Brennand, John, Esq.	Belmont, Parkstone
1885	Brennand, W. E., Esq.	Blandford
1905	Bromley, Miss	Grange, Florence Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth
1900	Brown, Miss	Belle Vue, Shaftesbury
1891	Browning, Benjamin, Esq., M.D., D.P.H., Staff-Surgeon R.N., Fellow of the Sanitary Institute of Great Britain	Bec-en-Hent, Sidmouth, Devon
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1907	Bulfin, Ignatius, Esq.	The Den, Knole Hill, Bournemouth
1900	Bullen, Colonel John Bullen Symes	Catherston Leweston, near Charmouth
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1905	Busk, Mrs. W. G.	Wraxall Manor, Cattistock, Dorchester
1901	Bussell, Miss Katherine	Thorneloe, Bridport
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1891	Carter, William, Esq.	The Hermitage, Parkstone
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1878	Colfox, T. A., Esq.	Coneygar, Bridport
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1907	Collins, Wm. W., Esq., R.I.	Corfe Castle
1905	Colville, H. K., Esq.	Loders Court, Bridport
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- 1903 Cornish-Browne, C. J., Esq. (*Hon. Director of the Dorset Photographic Survey*) Came House, Dorchester
- 1891 Cother, Rev. P. L., M.A. 1, Clearmount, Weymouth
- 1901 Crallan, G. E. J., Esq., M.B. The Elms, Parkstone
- 1886 Crespi, A. J. H., Esq., B.A., M.R.C.P. Cooma, Poole Road, Wimborne
- 1909 Crickmay, Harry W., Esq. Maybury, 12, Greenhill Gardens, Weymouth
- 1884 Cross, Rev. James, M.A. Baillie House, Sturminster Marshall, Wimborne
- 1890 Cull, James, Esq. 47, Phillimore Gardens, Campden Hill, London, W.
- 1885 Curme, Decimus, Esq., M.R.C.S. Childe Okeford, Blandford
- 1896 Curtis, C. H., Esq. Blandford
- 1897 Curtis, Wilfrid Parkinson, Esq., F.E.S. Aysgarth, Parkstone Road, Poole
- 1903 Dacombe, J. M. J., Esq. 27, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth
- 1907 Daniell, G. H. S., Esq., M.B. Dale House, Blandford
- 1907 Daniell, Miss Margaret Dale House, Blandford
- o.m. Darell, D., Esq., F.G.S., F.L.S., F.Z.S. Hillfield House, Stoke Fleming, Dartmouth, Devon
- 1904 Davies, Rev. Canon S. E., M.A. Wyke Regis Rectory, Weymouth
- 1894 Davis, Geo., Esq. Sunbeams, Icen Way, Dorchester
- 1909 Day, Cyril D., Esq. Downing College, Cambridge
- 1904 Deane, Mrs. A. M. Clay Hill House, near Gillingham
- 1910 Devenish, Major J. H. C. Springfield, Weymouth
- 1904 Dicker, Rev. C. W. H., R.D. (*Hon. Editor*) Pydeltrenthide Vicarage, Dorchester
- 1907 Dicker, Miss Eleanor H. Pydeltrenthide Vicarage, Dorchester
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- 1906 Dodd, Frank Wm., Esq., M.Inst.C.E. Connaught Road, Weymouth
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- 1908 Dominy, G. H., Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Milton Abbas, Blandford
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- 1905 Duke, Mrs. Henry Clandon, Dorchester

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1885	Elwes, Captain G. R. ( <i>Vice-President</i> )	Bossington, Bournemouth
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1896	Filliter, Rev. W. D., M.A.	East Lulworth Vicarage, Wareham
1910	Filliter, Mrs. W. D.	East Lulworth Vicarage, Wareham
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1906	Fisher, Harry, Esq.	The Rosery, Florence Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth
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1907	Fletcher, Rev. J. M. J., M.A., R.D.	The Vicarage, Wimborne Minster
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1893	Forrester, Mrs. James	Westport, Wareham
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1903	Fry, George S., Esq.	Chesham, The Grove, Nether Street, Finchley, London, N.
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1898	Glyn, Lieut.-General J. P. Carr	North Leigh, Wimborne
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1910	Hill, Miss Pearson	Rax, Bridport
1902	Hine, R., Esq.	Beaminster
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1907	Homer, Mrs. G. Wood	Bardolf Manor, Puddletown
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1903	Jenkins, Rev. T. Leonard, M.A.	Leigh Vicarage, Sherborne

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| 1876 | Langford, Rev. Canon, M.A.   | Belle Vue, Higher Hooe, Plymouth                  |
| 1910 | Leach, F. R., Esq.   | Upcott, Bournemouth West                          |
| 1901 | Lee, W. H. Markham, Esq.,<br>I.S.M.  | Wyke Regis, Weymouth                              |
| 1907 | Lees, Captain Edgar, R.N.  | The Manor House, Upwey                            |
| 1907 | Lees, Mrs. Edgar   | The Manor House, Upwey                            |
| 1910 | Le Fleming, E. K., Esq., B.A.,<br>M.B.   | St. Margaret's, Wimborne                          |
| 1900 | Legge, Miss Jane   | Allington Villa, Bridport                         |
| 1899 | Le Jeune, H., Esq.   | St. Ives, Upper Parkstone, Dorset                 |
| 1900 | Leslie, Rev. E. C., M.A.   | Came Rectory, Dorchester                          |
| 1902 | Lewis, Rev. A., M.A.   | Chardstock Vicarage, Chard                        |
| 1894 | Linklater, Rev. Prebendary,<br>D.D.  | Stroud Green Vicarage, London, N.                 |
| 1890 | Lister, Miss Gulielma  | High Cliffe, Lyme Regis                           |
| 1905 | Llewellyn, W., Esq., M.A.  | Upton House, Poole                                |
| 1900 | Lock, Mrs. A. H.   | 53, High West Street, Dorchester                  |
| 1892 | Lock, B. Fossett, Esq.   | 11, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London             |
| 1893 | Lock, Miss Mary C.   | 7, Blackheath Road, Oxford                        |
| 1910 | MacCormick, Rev. F., F.S.A.,<br>M.R.A.S.   | Wrockwardine Wood Rectory, Wel-<br>lington, Salop |
| 1888 | Macdonald, P. W., Esq., M.D.   | Herrison, Dorchester                              |
| 1902 | Mainwaring, Lieut.-Col. F. G. L.   | Wabey House, Upwey                                |
| 1890 | Manger, A. T., Esq.  | Stock Hill, Gillingham                            |
| 1907 | Mansel, Miss Susan   | Top-o'-Town, Dorchester                           |
| 1894 | Mansel-Pleydell, Mrs.  | Longthorns, Blandford                             |
| 1899 | Mansel-Pleydell, Rev. J. C. M.,<br>M.A., R.D. ( <i>Vice-President</i><br><i>and Hon. Treasurer</i> ) | Sturminster Newton Vicarage, Dorset               |
| 1896 | March, H. Colley, Esq., M.D.,<br>F.S.A., M.R.S.A.I., F.A.I.<br>( <i>Vice-President</i> )             | Portesham, Dorchester                             |
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| 1904 | Marsh, J. L., Esq.   | White Cliff Mill Street, Blandford                |
| 1907 | Mate, C. H., Esq.  | Elim, Surrey Road South, Bourne-<br>mouth         |
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| O.M. | Mayo, Rev. Canon, M.A., R.D.<br>( <i>Vice-President</i> )  | Long Burton Vicarage, Sherborne                   |
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1900	Middleton, Miss L. M.	Cliff Cabin, Worbarrow, Wareham
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1909	Newnham, H. S., Esq.	Rodlands, Dorchester
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1906	Oke, A. W., Esq.	32, Denmark Villas, Hove, Sussex
1886	Okeden, Colonel U. E. Parry	Turnworth, Blandford
1906	Okeden, Edmund Parry, Esq.	Turnworth, Blandford
1903	Oliver, Vere L., Esq.	Greenhill House, Weymouth
1903	Oliver, Mrs. Vere L.	Greenhill House, Weymouth
1904	Oliver, Weston, Esq., M.A.	Castle House, Weymouth
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1909	Pain, Miss	Membury, Bournemouth
1905	Parkinson, Miss M. B.	Oaklands, Wimborne
1890	Patey, Miss	Holmlea, Lincoln
1903	Patterson, Mrs. Myles	Southover, Tolpuddle, Dorchester
1907	Paul, Edward Clifford, Esq., M.A.	Eastbrook House, Upwey
1907	Paul, Mrs. Edward Clifford	Eastbrook House, Upwey
1894	Payne, Miss Florence O.	Rydal, Wimborne
1906	Pearce, Mrs. Thos. A.	Ivythorpe, Dorchester
1909	Pearce, Edwin, Esq.	Fore Street, Taunton
1901	Peck, Gerald R., Esq.	East Looe, Parkstone-on-Sea
1878	Penny, Rev. J., M.A.	Tarrant Rushton Rectory, Blandford
1894	Penny-Snook, S., Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	Netherton House, Weymouth
1907	Penny-Snook, Mrs. S.	Netherton House, Weymouth
1901	Pentin, Rev. Herbert, M.A. ( <i>Vice- President and Hon. Secretary</i> )	Milton Abbey Vicarage, Blandford
1894	Peto, Sir Henry, Bart.	Chedington Court, Misterton, Somerset
1893	Phillips, Miss	Walton House, Bournemouth
1908	Phillips, Rev. C. A., M.A.	Walton House, Bournemouth



- 1898 Pickard-Cambridge, A. W., Esq.,  
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- o.m. Pickard - Cambridge, Rev. O.,  
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- 1908 Pickard-Cambridge, Miss Ada Picardy, Rodwell, Weymouth
- 1903 Pickard-Cambridge, Miss  
Catherine Picardy, Rodwell, Weymouth
- 1903 Pike, Leonard G., Esq. Kingbarrow, Wareham
- 1903 Pitt-Rivers, A. L. Fox, Esq.,  
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- 1904 Plowman, Rev. L. S. Ibberton Rectory, Blandford
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- 1900 Pope, George, Esq. Weston Hall, Bournemouth
- 1909 Pope, Francis J., Esq. 17, Holland Road, London, W.
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- 1905 Pringle, Mrs. Henry T. Ferndown, Wimborne
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- 1906 Raymond, Mrs. F. Garryowen, Dorchester
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1906	Shepherd, Rev. F. J.	Dorchester
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1908	Shortt, Miss L. M.	The Manor House, Martinstown
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1895	Simpson, Miss	12, Greenhill, Weymouth
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1899	Smith, Howard Lyon, Esq., L.R.C.P.	Buckland House, Buckland Newton. Dorchester
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1908	Stephens, A. N., Esq.	Haddon House, West Bay, Bridport
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1896	Sturdy, Philip, Esq.	The Wick, Branksome, near Bourne- mouth
1902	Sturdy, Miss Violet	The Wick, Branksome, near Bourne- mouth
1907	Sturdy, Alan, Esq.	The Wick, Branksome, near Bourne- mouth
1905	Sturdy, E. T., Esq.	Norburton, Burton Bradstock, Bridport
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1905	Suttill, John, Esq.	24, West Street, Bridport
1909	Swaffield, A. Owen, Esq.	5, Lansdowne Square, Rodwell, Wey- mouth
1908	Swaffield, R. H. O. Owen, Esq.	1, Lansdowne Terrace, Weymouth
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1889	Symes, G. P., Esq., M.A., B.C.L., M.V.O.	Monksdene, Weymouth
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1904	Symonds, Henry, Esq.	30, Bolton Gardens, London, S.W.
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1907	Tims, Mrs. E. M.	Winfrith House, Winfrith
1907	Towers, Miss	Whicham, Porchester Road, Bourne- mouth
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1908	Udal, N. R., Esq., B.A.	Gordon College, Khartoum
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1905	Ward, Samuel, Esq.	Ingleton, Greenhill, Weymouth



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1904	Warry, Wm., Esq.	Westrow, Holwell, Sherborne
1905	Watkins, Wm., Esq., F.R.G.S.	62, London Wall, E.C.
o.m.	Watts, Rev. Canon, M.A.	Bemerton, Salisbury
1905	Watts, Miss	Bemerton, Salisbury
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1905	Webb, H. N., Esq.	Bibury Cottage, Osborn Road, Brank- some Park, Bournemouth
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1909	Whistler, Rev. C. W., M.R.C.S.	Chesilborne Rectory, Dorchester
1895	Whitby, Joseph, Esq.	Preston, Yeovil
1908	Whitby, Mrs. J.	Preston, Yeovil
1904	Wildman, W. B., Esq., M.A.	The Abbey House, Sherborne
1892	Williams, E. W., Esq., B.A.	Herringston, Dorchester
1903	Williams, Captain Berkeley C. W.	Herringston, Dorchester
1897	Williams, Miss F. L.	Westleaze, Dorchester
1884	Williams, Colonel Robert, M.P.	Bridehead, Dorchester
1884	Williams, Mrs. Robert	Bridehead, Dorchester
1908	Williams, Miss Rhoda	Bridehead, Dorchester
1906	Williams, Miss Meta	South Walk, Dorchester
1903	Willis, Mrs. A. Ratcliffe	Bendemeer, Parkstone
1905	Wills, A. W., Esq., B.A., LL.B.	3, Hyde Park Gate, London, S.W.
1910	Wingate, Rev. P. B., M.A.	Tarrant Keynston Rectory, Blandford
1906	Winwood, T. H. R., Esq., M.A.	High Littleton House, High Littleton, Bristol
1910	Woodd, A. B., Esq., M.A., M.R.I.	Heckfield, Milford-on-Sea, Hants
1898	Woodhouse, Miss	Chilmore, Ansty, Dorchester
1903	Woodhouse, Miss Ellen E.	Chilmore, Ansty, Dorchester
1906	Woodhouse, Frank D., Esq.	Old Ford House, Blandford St. Mary
1906	Woodhouse, Mrs. Frank D.	Old Ford House, Blandford St. Mary
1902	Wright, Rev. Herbert L., B.A.	Church Knowle Rectory, Corfe Castle
1904	Yates, Robert, Esq.	Delcombe, Milton Abbas, Blandford
1910	Yeatman, H. F., Esq., M.A., B.C.L.	28, Cecil Court, Hollywood Road, London, S.W.
1893	Young, E. W., Esq.	Dorchester

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The above list includes the New Members elected up to and including the August meeting of the year 1910.

(Any omissions or errors should be notified to the Hon. Secretary.)

## New Members

ELECTED SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LIST CONTAINED  
IN VOL. XXX.

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PROPOSED ON AUGUST 25TH, 1909.

<i>Nominee.</i>	<i>Proposer.</i>	<i>Second.</i>
J. A. Carnegie-Cheales, Esq., of The Kendalls, Gillingham	The Rev. W. E. H. Sotheby	The Rev. Canon Langford
Miss Pain, of Membury, Bournemouth	Miss Towers	The Hon. Treasurer
Edwin Pearce, Esq., of Fore Street, Taunton	W. de C. Prideaux, Esq.	Mrs. T. A. Pearce

PROPOSED ON DEC. 14th, 1909.

<i>Nominee.</i>	<i>Proposer.</i>	<i>Second.</i>
The Rev. E. H. Bates-Harbin, M.A., of Newton Surmaville, Yeovil	Canon C. H. Mayo	The Rev. F. W. Weaver
Commander T. C. A. Blomefield, R.N., of 8, Old Castle Road, Weymouth	The Rev. P. L. Cother	F. D. Lys, Esq.
F. Bligh Bond, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., of 16, Brock Street, Bath	The Rev. R. Grosvenor Bartelot	The Hon. Secretary
H. W. Fox-Strangways, Esq., of 38, Haldon Road, Exeter	Philip Sturdy, Esq.	Alan Sturdy, Esq.
The Rev. F. MacCormick, F.S.A.S., M.R.A.S., of Wrockwardine Wood Rectory, Wellington, Salop	The Hon. Secretary	The Rev. C. W. H. Dicker
Miss Mary Newland, of Belgrano, Alexandra Park Road, Parkstone	The Rev. H. S. Solly	Alan Searle, Esq.
The Rev. T. Russell-Wright, M.A., of Mountside, Westbourne Park Road, Bournemouth	F. T. Atkins, Esq.	The President
Miss Webb, of Luscombe, Parkstone	F. J. B. Beckford, Esq.	H. Forde, Esq.
H. F. Yeatman, Esq., M.A., B.C.L., of 28, Cecil Court, Hollywood Road, London, S.W.	Mrs. Forbes	Sir Randolph Baker

## PROPOSED ON MARCH 2ND, 1910.

<i>Nominee.</i>	<i>Proposer.</i>	<i>Second.</i>
W. H. Baxter, Esq., of Sherborne	Alfred Pope, Esq.	W. B. Wildman, Esq.
Mrs. W. H. Baxter, of Sherborne	"	"
Mrs. Walter Duncan, of Charmouth	H. S. Suttill, Esq.	J. T. Stephens, Esq.
The Rev. A. E. Eaton, M.A., F.E.S. of West House, Symondsburys, Bridport	The President	The Rev. O. Pickard- Cambridge
A. B. Woodd, Esq., M.A., M.R.I., of "Heckfield," Milford-on-Sea, Hants	Capt. J. E. Acland	H. S. Newnham, Esq.

## PROPOSED ON MAY 19TH, 1910.

<i>Nominee.</i>	<i>Proposer.</i>	<i>Second.</i>
Major B. E. Freame, of The Chantry, Gillingham	H. Syndercombe Bower, Esq.	H. C. Forrester, Esq.

## PROPOSED ON JUNE 30TH, 1910.

<i>Nominee.</i>	<i>Proposer.</i>	<i>Second.</i>
The Rev. J. C. Blackett, B.A., of Gillingham, Dorset	The Rev. F. W. Brandreth	The Rev. W. E. H. Sotheby
B. C. Forder, Esq., J.P., of Langton House, Blandford	Alfred Pope, Esq.	The Hon. Secretary
S. P. Vivian, Esq., of the Inland Revenue Office, Somerset House, London	The Rev. C. W. Whistler	„

## PROPOSED ON JULY 22ND, 1910.

<i>Nominee.</i>	<i>Proposer.</i>	<i>Second.</i>
Major J. H. C. Devenish, of Spring- field, Weymouth	Lieut.-Colonel U. Parry Okeden	The Hon. Secretary
Mrs. W. D. Filliter, of East Lul- worth Vicarage, Wareham	The Rev. W. D. Filliter	„
Sir John A. Hanham, Bart., of Deau's Close, Wimborne	Lord Eustace Cecil	H. Syndercombe Bower, Esq.
Miss Pearson Hill, of Rax, Bridport	H. Symonds, Esq.	Miss A. L. Colfox

## PROPOSED ON AUGUST 15TH, 1910.

<i>Nominee.</i>	<i>Proposer.</i>	<i>Seconder.</i>
F. E. Abbott, Esq., of Glendinning Avenue, Weymouth	W. Bowles Barrett, Esq.	Harry W. Crickmay, Esq.
F. R. Leach, Esq., of Upcott, Bournemouth West	Dr. C. B. Thomson	Dr. T. Telfordsmith
E. K. Le Fleming, Esq., B.A., M.B., of St. Margaret's, Wimborne	„	„
Mrs. W. P. Schuster, of West Lulworth Vicarage, Wareham	The Rev. W. P. Schuster	The Rev. W. D. Filliter
The Rev. P. P. Wingate, M.A., of Tarrant Keynston Rectory, Blandford	The Rev. A. C. Almack	The Hon. Secretary



## PUBLICATIONS.

**Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.** Vols. I.—XXXI. Price 10s. 6d. each volume, post free.

**General Index to the Proceedings.** Vols. I.—XXVI. Price 6d., by post 7d.

**The Church Bells of Dorset.** By the Rev. Canon RAVEN, D.D., F.S.A. Price (in parts, as issued), 6s. 6d., post free.

**Church Goods, Dorset, A.D. 1552.** By the Rev. W. MILES BARNES. (*Out of print.*)

By the late J. C. MANSEL-PLEYDELL, B.A., F.G.S., F.L.S.

**The Flora of Dorset.** 2nd Edition. Price 12s.

**The Birds of Dorset.** Price 5s.

**The Mollusca of Dorset.** Price 5s.

By the Rev. O. PICKARD-CAMBRIDGE, M.A., F.R.S., F.Z.S.

**Spiders of Dorset.** 2 vols. Price 25s., post free.

**The British Phalangidea, or Harvest Men.** Price 5s., post free.

**British Chernetidea, or False Scorpions.** Price 3s., post free.

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The Volumes of Proceedings can be obtained from the Hon. Treasurer (the Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell, Sturminster Newton); the Church Bells of Dorset, from the Rev. W. Miles Barnes, Dorchester; Mr. Mansel-Pleydell's works, from the Curator of the Dorset County Museum, Dorchester; the Rev. O. Pickard-Cambridge's works, from the Author, Bloxworth Rectory, Wareham; and the General Index, from the Assistant-Secretary (Mr. H. Pouncey, *Dorset County Chronicle* Office, Dorchester).

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## SOCIETIES IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE FIELD CLUB.

**British Museum, London.**

**British Museum of Natural History, London.**

**British Association, Burlington House, London.**

**Cambridge Philosophical Society, Cambridge.**

**Devon Association for the Advancement of Science.**

**Geological Society of London, London.**

**Hampshire Field Club, Southampton.**

**Royal Society of Antiquaries, Dublin, Ireland.**

**Society of Antiquaries, London.**

**Somerset Archæological Society, Taunton.**

**University Library, Cambridge.**

**Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society,  
Salisbury.**

The Proceedings  
OF THE  
Dorset Natural History & Antiquarian  
Field Club

DURING THE SEASON 1909-1910.

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WINTER SESSION.

THE OPENING MEETING took place at the Reading Room of the County Museum on Tuesday, December 14th. The President occupied the chair, supported by five of the Vice-Presidents ; and nearly forty Members attended the meeting.

Three new Members were elected, and nine nominations were announced.

EXHIBITS.

By the PRESIDENT :

Ancient jug, got out of the Backwater at Weymouth ; the base adorned with a rough " thumbing."

By the Rev. CANON RAVENHILL :

Fragments of mediæval tiles, from Old Sarum.

By the PRESIDENT (on behalf of the Rev. A. R. TURING  
BRUCE) :

A cylindrical perforated mass of earthenware, &c., found by him in a pit at Sixpenny Handley. Dr. MARCH suggested

that it was a weight suspended by a cord and used in weaving. Captain ACLAND observed that there were a number of such loom weights in the Museum.

#### STONE MORTARS.

The Rev. J. M. J. FLETCHER and the Rev. C. W. H. DICKER exhibited some ancient mortars or stoups of Purbeck stone.

By the Rev. C. R. BASKETT :

An interesting collection of stone implements from British Columbia.

ROMAN VILLA AT WYKE REGIS.—Captain ACLAND produced a letter from Mr. H. C. Bowdage, calling attention to the site of a supposed Roman villa at Wyke Regis, discovered ten years ago while he was superintending the construction of the Ferry Bridge. He observed traces on the soil of some building underneath. Nothing, added Captain Acland, was more likely than that there was a Roman villa at Wyke, and his object in mentioning the matter was, if possible, to induce some antiquary of the neighbourhood to undertake excavations to ascertain the truth of the supposition. The Rev. C. R. BASKETT said he had two Roman coins which were dug up in the allotments at Wyke not long ago.

#### PAPERS.

The Rev. J. M. J. FLETCHER read a paper on "The Birthplace of Matthew Prior." (Page 71.)

Mr. F. J. BARNES read a paper (of considerable scientific value and of general interest) on "Lobsters."

The Rev. H. SHAEN SOLLY contributed a note on "A large Boulder, found in the Drift, Upper Parkstone." (Page 161.)

Mr. HENRY SYMONDS read a paper on "Some Dorset Privateers," of the ports of Poole, Weymouth, and Lyme Regis. (Page 30.)

Two other papers—by the Hon. Editor and by Mr. J. S. Udal, F.S.A.—were held over until the next meeting.



## SECOND WINTER MEETING.

*Wednesday, March 2nd, 1910.*

The chair was taken by the PRESIDENT. There were also present:—Lord Eustace Cecil, V.P., the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Editor, the Assistant Secretary, and about fifty other Members.

Nine new Members were elected, and five nominations were received.

CONGRESS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.—Printed copies of the Report of the Twentieth Congress were circulated amongst the Members present, showing the valuable work that is being done throughout the country by the various bodies interested in Archæological research and in the care of ancient monuments and other works. Our Club was represented at last year's Congress by Mr. Nigel Bond.

PUDDLETOWN CHURCH.—A short discussion was raised, at the suggestion of the PRESIDENT, on the subject of the proposed re-building of the Chancel of Puddletown Church, and the extension of the North Aisle. Subsequently, a resolution was moved by the Rev. S. E. V. FILLEUL, seconded by the Rev. C. R. BASKETT, "That this Club has heard with regret of the proposal to make additions to Puddletown Church, and wishes to express disapproval of any alterations being made to this ancient fabric." This was carried unanimously.

THE "PROCEEDINGS."—Captain ELWES gave notice that at the next meeting he would move that the price of the annual volume should be raised from 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. to members, and to 15s. for non-members.

THE MEDALS COMPETITION.—The Rev. J. C. M. MANSEL-PLYDELL said he wished to say how much he hoped that the generous interest in the founding of the medals competitions by Lord Eustace Cecil would be justified by a larger entry.



## EXHIBITS.

By the PRESIDENT :

A copy of the 1st Edition of the Nuremburg *Liber Cronicarum*, printed in 1493 by Antony Koberger, and containing a history of the world, illustrated by over 2,000 woodcuts by Michael Wolgemut (Albert Dürer's master) and Wilhelm Pleydenwurff.

The Creation, the Expulsion from Eden, and many other Bible events are illustrated. Sacred and profane history run side by side, Ulysses and Circe finding a place on the same page as King Saul. Long series of Popes, Kings, and Emperors, and famous personages are shown (as stated in the colophon) by accurate portraits. A great feature of the work is a number of maps and views of cities and countries. There are also woodcuts showing types of dog-headed, headless, and other strange peoples in various foreign countries. The second part is of the nature of a Gazetteer, with descriptions and views of different lands and localities.

OLD STONE CROSSES.—Mr. ALFRED POPE, F.S.A., author of "The Old Stone Crosses of Dorset," exhibited his fine collection of prints, photos, &c., illustrating the subject. They were, he said, principally of mediæval memorial and market crosses, and represented by excellent line engravings, mostly of late in the 18th or early in the 19th centuries.

DORSET PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY.—Mr. C. J. CORNISH BROWNE, of Came House, the director of the Photographic Survey of Dorset, exhibited about 160 platinotype photographs, temporarily mounted. In doing so he wished to say how much the work of the Survey could be helped by the members of the club who had photographs putting themselves in communication with him and offering to help with their cameras. Captain ACLAND suggested the adoption of some broad system of classification in the collection. The PRESIDENT proposed that a small committee should be appointed to co-operate with Mr. Cornish Browne, to consist of the Executive, the Rev. W. Miles Barnes, who instituted the Survey, and Captain Acland on behalf of the Museum. This was agreed to.

QUARTER NOBLE.—The Rev. C. W. WHISTLER exhibited an interesting gold coin of the reign of Richard II.—a quarter of a rose noble, which was found at Cheselbourne.

A COFFIN LID AT TOLPUDDLE.—Mr. W. DE C. PRIDEAUX exhibited a plaster cast of an early stone coffin lid, at Tolpuddle, having an effigy in low relief with an inscription around it. The PRESIDENT said the Club were much indebted to Mr. Prideaux for getting this portion of the stone slab out and making the plaster cast of it. £2 was voted towards the estimated cost (£5) of getting removed from the wall the lower portion of the slab which is embedded in it.

A DOUBLE STOUP.—Mr. LE JEUNE showed a photo of a reversible stone stoup with trunnions found at Christchurch Priory.

#### PAPERS.

The HON. EDITOR read a paper on “The Normans in Dorset.” (Page 115.)

“THE BETTISCOMBE SKULL.”—In the absence of the Hon. J. S. Udal, F.S.A., portions of his paper on the “Bettiscombe Skull” were read. (The paper will be found printed at page 176.)

SPIDERS.—The introduction was read to the customary annual paper prepared by the Rev. O. PICKARD CAMBRIDGE, F.R.S., the eminent arachnologist, on “British Arachnida Noted and Observed in 1909.” The result of the past year’s collecting and observations enabled him to record the addition of seven species to the British and Irish list.

WEYMOUTH AND MELCOMBE REGIS IN THE CIVIL WAR.—Mr. W. BOWLES BARRETT, the well-known Weymouth historian and antiquary, read an interesting paper on that town in the time of the Civil War.

The meeting terminated with a paper by the Rev. A. C. ALMACK on the “Pitts of Blandford St. Mary.” (Page 165.)

## ANNUAL MEETING.

THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING took place on May 26th. The President (in the chair) was supported by the following Vice-Presidents :—The Rev. H. Pentin, Captain Elwes, the Rev. W. Miles Barnes, the Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell, and Mr. Ernest Sykes. There were also present the Hon. Editor, the Assistant Secretary, and nearly 30 other Members. Five new Members were balloted for and elected, and one fresh nomination was announced.

The PRESIDENT then read his Address. (Page l.)

Mr. MIDDLETON moved a vote of thanks to the President, and was seconded by Canon RAVENHILL.

The HON. SECRETARY read his Report, in the course of which he announced the financial results of the summer meetings held during the past year. (Page lviii.) He next referred to the work of the sectional committees, and concluded by proposing that an Earthworks Sub-Committee be added. This proposal being formally put to the meeting, was unanimously carried, and the following Members elected *ad hoc* :—The President, Dr. Colley March, the Rev. C. W. H. Dicker, Captain J. E. Acland, Messrs. C. S. Prideaux, W. de C. Prideaux, and H. Le Jeune, and the Rev. C. W. Whistler as corresponding secretary.

The HON. EDITOR read a short report. (Page lx.)

THE DORSET PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY.—Mr. C. J. Cornish Browne (Director) being unable to attend this Meeting, his Report was read by the HON. SECRETARY. (Page lxi.)

THE CLUB'S FINANCES.—The HON. TREASURER presented his financial statement. (Page lxiii.) The PRESIDENT said they were much indebted to Captain Elwes for the wonderful way in which he managed their finances. He had pleasure in moving the adoption of the report. The Rev. G. THOMPSON, in seconding, said he was glad to hear that, although so much had been done by the Club, there was so large a balance in hand. The motion was carried with applause.

THE MUSEUM.—Captain ACLAND, as Curator, gave some account of the principal work done in recent years in the County Museum, and a vote of thanks was accorded to him for his valuable services. (Page 24.)

PRESENTATION OF THE ESSAY COMPETITION MEDALS.—The Rev. J. C. M. MANSEL-PLEYDELL then made the presentation of the “Mansel-Pleydell” and “Cecil” medals. The “Mansel-Pleydell” silver medal and prize, of the value of £5, had been awarded by the Trustees to Dr. W. Theophilus Ord, of Greenstead, Madeira-road, Bournemouth, who, although a busy professional man, had found time to produce an excellent essay on “The Geology of the Purbeck Hills.” The “Cecil” medal and prize, also of the value of £5, had been awarded to Mr. George Nicholson, of Sunny Bank, Weymouth, for an admirable essay on “Electricity as a motive power in aviation, navigation, and motor traction on land, in view of recent developments.” This subject was chosen by Lord Eustace Cecil himself, the founder of the competition, who had written saying how sorry he was not to be able to attend and present the medal in person.

MISCELLANEOUS EXHIBITS AND REMARKS. — The PRESIDENT called attention to a small fossil of uncertain nature found at Swanage and sent by Sir Charles Robinson, C.B., and also to some very large roots of black bryony. Mr. EATON, who has lately been in Algeria, studying the habits of the various small desert animals, ranging in size from a fox to a small mouse, gave a short and interesting account of some of his observations, speaking especially about the jerboa.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

On the motion of Canon RAVENHILL, seconded by Mr. VERE OLIVER, Mr. Nelson M. Richardson was re-elected President with acclamation.

Mr. STANLEY CLARKE proposed, and Major CONEY seconded, the re-election of the Rev. Herbert Pentin as Hon. Secretary; which was unanimously agreed to.

Captain ELWES, who had intimated that he would be unable to continue in the office of honorary treasurer, said he wished to propose as his successor the Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell. This would once more connect one of the most revered names in their history with the official heart of the Club. The PRESIDENT, in seconding the proposition, said it was with regret that he heard of Captain Elwes's resignation, for he had been a phenomenal treasurer. He found the Club, if not in debt, yet with no money in hand, and they had just heard what was the present satisfactory financial position of the Club. The motion having been carried with applause, the newly-elected Hon. Treasurer accepted office with a few felicitous remarks.

Mr. FLOYER proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Captain Elwes for his ten years' work, and was seconded by the HON. SECRETARY. The vote was cordially given.

The Rev. C. W. H. Dicker was re-elected to the post of Hon. Editor of the Club's "Proceedings."

It was proposed by Captain ELWES, and seconded by Mr. DICKER, that Mr. Cornish Browne be re-elected Director of the Photographic Survey. Carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT then re-nominated all the Vice-Presidents.

Mr. Alfred Pope accepted the duty of representing the Club at the meeting of the British Association at Sheffield, and Messrs. Alfred Pope and Nigel Bond were asked to serve as the Club's delegates to the Congress of Archæological Societies in union with the Society of Antiquaries in London.

A programme was arranged for the holding of one two-day meeting and three single-day meetings during the Summer.





## FIRST SUMMER MEETING.

## THE VALLEY OF THE NORTH-EASTERN WINTERBOURNE.

*Tuesday, June 30th.*

For this year's opening meeting in the country the Valley of the North-Eastern Winterbourne was selected, Blandford railway station being the *rendezvous*. The gathering numbered upwards of 70, and included the President, the Hon. Secretary, the Editor, and our ex-Treasurer (Captain Elwes). With the exception of a small shower at starting, the weather was fine all through the day.

## WINTERBOURNE STICKLAND

was the first halt, and here the carriages were met by a small contingent who had come by cars. On alighting the party entered the church. The Rector (the Rev. G. H. Matthews) was unavoidably absent; but he had thoughtfully left some notes which he had written about the church. In these he stated that the tower and nave were of about the date 1470; but the east window, of three lights, is Early English.

In the side chapel the party viewed the large tomb of the Skinner family, one Thomas Skinner having died in 1756. The Rev. R. GROSVENOR BARTELOT called attention to the mural tablet bearing an heraldic shield, the dexter side void, the sinister side charged with a crossbow between four choughs, probably the arms of a former rector of the name of Highmore, whose daughter married a husband having no coat of arms. The Communion plate was exhibited, the chalice bearing the date 1688. Mr. ALFRED POPE said a few words on the rude sculpture of the ancient Rood in the church porch, discovered during the restoration of 1890, with the face side hidden in the east wall of the porch. It is thought to be the head of the old village cross, the base of which is still to be seen in the roadway.

## WINTERBOURNE CLENSTON MANOR HOUSE.

The party drove next to the beautiful manor house of Winterbourne Clenston, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Tory, who had kindly allowed the Club to view it, and who gave the members a hospitable welcome. When the party were standing on the lawn before the house,

The Rev. C. W. H. DICKER gave a brief historical sketch of the development of the English Manor-House, ending with some particulars of the present example. He called attention to the splendid staircase of stone leading up to the principal apartment, the roof of which had been elaborately decorated with fine plaster work.

The Rev. R. GROSVENOR BARTELOT said that the house, so far as he knew, had never changed hands by purchase, but came down from the time of the Conquest by marriage from family to family.

A beautiful carved oak overmantel in the dining room traced, in its heraldic shields, the descent of the manor. From a Saxon named Syward, it came to the Winterbournes; the Winterbourne heiress married a Norman named de la Lynde. A de la Lynde married a Morton, the heiress of the Mortons married a Pleydell, and a Pleydell married a Michel.

The PRESIDENT having expressed the hearty thanks of the Club to Mr. and Mrs. Tory, the party inspected the fine barn, with its magnificent roof of the early Perpendicular Period.

## CLENSTON CHURCH.

## TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST PRESIDENT.

The church of St. Nicholas, Clenston, rebuilt in 1840 by Mrs. Michel with flints and Portland stone, in the Perpendicular style, is of no archæological interest; but the party entered it to pay a tribute of affectionate remembrance to their first President, the late Mr. J. C. Mansel-Pleydell, of Whatcombe, who there lies buried.



## WINTERBOURNE WHITECHURCH.

Following the valley road the party came next to Winterbourne Whitechurch, and entered the interesting church of St. Mary, which succeeded the original "white church" of Saxon times.

The Rev. HERBERT PENTIN mentioned that the Rector (the Rev. H. H. Tilney Bassett) could not be with them, and had asked him to call attention to the principal features of interest in the church.

The nave was burnt down 60 years ago. The arches under the tower, with their capitals carved with faces, some grotesque, other angelic, were late Norman. The wooden pulpit, of about the date 1420, belonged originally to the old parish church of Milton, which was pulled down at the restoration. It was formerly covered with plaster; but some years ago the Rector discovered that there was some beautiful woodwork under the plaster, and on the plaster being removed the carved and painted woodwork was found. The figures of the evangelists in the niches were modern. In the parish register was to be seen the entry of the baptism of John and Charles Wesley's father. It had been photographed, and would soon be obtainable in the popular picture postcard form. The entry read:—

"1662. Samuel Wesley, the son of John Wesley, was baptised December 17th."

The Rev. C. W. H. DICKER, referring to the tower arches and Norman piers, observed that in many cases pointed arches were found in association with pure Norman work. The pointed arch had been discovered centuries before, and did not necessarily mark any transition, as was popularly supposed. Here at Whitechurch they saw the true contrast between the heavy Norman work and the light Early English. The Gothic feeling was noticeable in the spring upwards, which marked a new departure in structure. Originally that was probably a late Norman church. For some reason the tower disappeared, and all that remained of it, the two arches, were left *in situ*, and thereupon the Thirteenth Century builders started and finished the chancel in the prevailing style of the period.

On leaving the church the party went round to the north outside wall, to view the small ancient cross embedded in the masonry, a cross which some call Saxon and others British.

## WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON.

The party did not dismount from their carriages at Winterbourne Kingston, but they pulled up for a minute to have a

view of the exterior of the church of St. Nicholas, built, like so many others, of courses of flint and ashlar, and in the Early English style.

The south doorway has a beautiful feathered inner-arch. In 1873, when it was restored from designs by Mr. George E. Street, R.A., the eminent architect, who made a special study of the Early English period of architecture, the north aisle was added, and a memorial window to Mrs. Michel.

In Little's Farmhouse, in this parish, there is to be seen some ancient heraldic glass, in which the griffin rampant of the Dacombe is associated with the arms of the families with whom they intermarried.

### WINTERBOURNE ANDERSON.

The next stopping place was Winterbourne Anderson. The charming manor house is under internal repair, but Mrs. Gratrix, the owner, had kindly given the Club leave to view the outside. An alternative name for this parish was in olden times Fyve Ash. Probably the "five ashes" which gave the name to the place have long since decayed or been cut down, although the "nine elms" after which the locomotive works of the L. and S.W.R. in London are named are said to be still growing in Nine Elms-lane.

William de Stokes held the manor in the reign of Edward I. In the 36th year of Edward III. that well-known Dorset family, the Turbervilles, of Bere Regis, came into possession. In the 29th year of Henry VI. it passed to the Mortons, of Melcombe. In 1620 Sir John Tregonwell, of Milton Abbey, purchased the manor of Sir George Morton, and two years later built the house so typical of the domestic architecture of the period. It is quadrangular on plan, built of red brick with massive stone quoins. Three gables, formerly surmounted with ball finials, as at Montacute and other houses of the period, combine with the tall, elegantly grouped chimneys to relieve the house of any flatness and stiffness, while "the mellow reds and greys of the brickwork" are a feast of colour to the artist's eye. Inside the house the floor and main staircase are of oak, with especially good balustrades.

### WINTERBOURNE TOMSON.

By the leave of Mr. W. E. Genge, the party went over the manor house of Winterbourne Tomson, which has some Elizabethan windows, with stone mullions and jambs and

typical label moulds. The principal internal feature is the fine early Jacobean plaster ceiling, which extended over the whole area of the house and is to be traced in all the rooms into which the original hall has been divided.

The party went from the manor house to the small derelict church adjoining.

The HON. SEC. mentioned that that little church was put up by Archbishop Wake, a native of Blandford, and has fallen into disuse simply because the population of the parish and district had grown smaller and smaller. Much attention was drawn to the church and its decayed condition when Sir Frederick Treves's book on Dorset in the "Highways and Byways" series was published. No money had been spent on its restoration, but Mr. Genge had done what he could for its preservation by having the windows all boarded up and a lock put on the door.

#### ALMER.

Through Winterbourne Zelston, the centre of the County Council's small holdings, the Club drove to Almer, where the Rector (the Rev. BARON HICHENS) was waiting at the church.

A beautiful structural feature here is the Norman arcade of three bays, in warm-hued sandstone, with two shallow carved human faces over the capitals of the pillars. The Early English font, standing on the inverted bowl of another old font, is also an object of special interest.

Mr. BARON HICHENS said that the most curious thing they had in the church was the pair of Swiss glass panels inserted in the north window of the chancel. They were of the sixteenth century, and considered very valuable. He had been offered £100 apiece for them; but, although they were perhaps not altogether suitable for a church, they could not dispose of them. Probably Mr. Drax brought them from Antwerp, where he collected many things which he put in the church at Charborough. He also referred to the small interesting brass on the wall. He found it in a house at Stickland and gave the man half-a-crown for it. The Latin inscription, beginning "Orate pro anima," may be translated:—

"Pray for the soul of Master William Trygge (or Brygge), formerly Rector of this Church, who died on the 29th day of December, in the year of our Lord MVXLIII."

There are, in the brass, two points in dispute. First, some say that the name of the deceased is Trygge and others that it is Brygge. We think that the initial letter is a "T." Secondly, some say that the date is not "MVXLIII," but "MVXVII."

The PRESIDENT read a letter from Mr. W. de C. Prideaux, of Weymouth, the indefatigable student of Dorset brasses, calling attention to the fact that the inscription was the same as that of the brass given by Hutchins as being in the neighbouring church of Winterbourne Zelston to the memory of one Brygge. It would be strange if there was a Rector named Brygge in one parish and a Rector named Trygge in an adjoining one. Mr. RICHARDSON, in returning thanks to the Rector, congratulated him on his rescue of this interesting brass.

Mrs. Rogers, of the Manor House, had kindly allowed the Club to visit this picturesque and pleasantly secluded residence, which, one would judge by the ridges in the adjoining fields, was originally moated. The house has a typical Tudor doorway, and outside this a handsome Jacobean portico has been erected, with an ornate superstructure in the classic Renaissance style, and of the seventeenth century. Mr. BARTELOT mentioned that this was the old house of the Anketyls, and he called attention inside to a Concordance of the Scriptures published by "S. N." of Cambridge in the year 1672—before Cruden's.

### STURMINSTER MARSHALL.

The last church visited was that of St. Mary, Sturminster Marshall, where the members were confronted with a Norman arcade with massive square piers, rudely chamfered, and the arches adorned with a later scalloping in plaster.

Here the Club were received courteously by the Rev. James Cross, who has been Vicar for 33 years, and who gave them a detailed account of the church and everything of interest that it contains. The nave and north aisle, he said, were supposed to be of the time of King John. In the tower are four bells, one of the fourteenth and another of the fifteenth century. Mr. Cross announced with satisfaction that he had succeeded in completing a collection of portraits of previous vicars from 1745 to the present time. In the churchyard the visitors observed with interest the base and shaft of the old cross, and, near by, the mutilated stone coffin.

Driving on to the Rectory, the party were refreshed with tea at the hospitable invitation of the Rector, who also exhibited a chalice, which, he said, was thought to be the latest piece of pre-Reformation Communion plate known.

A short business meeting was held, in the course of which one new member was elected.

The PRESIDENT having thanked Mr. Cross heartily for his kind services and much appreciated hospitality, the carriages started on the return drive to Blandford.

## SECOND SUMMER MEETING.

## POOLE HARBOUR.

*Friday, July 22nd.*

Nearly 100 Members assembled at Poole Station, among those present being the President, Lord Eustace Cecil (past President) and Lady Eustace, the Hon. Secretary, and the Hon. Treasurer. Alderman MATE acted as guide during the day. Pausing for a few minutes to inspect the problematical 15th Century building known as the "Town Cellars," the party proceeded to the Fish Shambles and embarked in capacious seine boats, in tow of two tugs. Passing up Wareham Channel, the flotilla brought up at Russel Quay. Here Alderman MATE gave an able address on Poole Harbour, dwelling on its historical and scenic aspects.

Excluding the islands, the estuary contains about 10,000 acres, and it is estimated that upwards of 36 million tons of water flow into and out of it every spring tide—many discussions having been entered into regarding the possibility of harnessing this stupendous force. From Russel Quay great quantities of peat are shipped. Close to the Quay is the ancient Attewell, a famous fresh-water spring from which water used to be fetched in boats to Poole in times of drought. The Mayor of Poole is Admiral of the port. A perambulation of officials in 1649 was quoted, of which the record runs:—"Having erected a tilt with the oares and sayles of the boat, we refreshed ourselves with such vichialls as God had provided for that perambulation, and, having seen the young men disporting themselves with their hats in a kind of football, the Mayor and others proceeded to the margin of the ocean and claimed jurisdiction as usual, when 'it pleased Mr. Moses Durell, having Peter Hiley in his one hand and in his other hand John Gigger (unknown to the company till afterwards), for a better and future remembrance of the claymeigne of the admyrall jurisdiction, and liberties abovesaid, to lead these two youths in his hands about knee-deep into the ocean, and then returning back to the tilt again, and having refreshed ourselves with some discourses concerning the observation of that day's service, and seen the young men again disport themselves with their hats at football, as aforesaid, the tide being come for our departure from thence, we came up to Poole with our several companies in the boats above mentioned, and thence, the women



departing to their several habitations (after salutations past), Mr. Mayor with the rest of the magistrates and men in his company went to Mr. Melmoth's Inn, where, having refreshed for a little while themselves with some wine, beer, and tobacco, every man taking his leave one of the other in a civil, loving, courteous manner, they departed to their several and respective homes, without any observation of any remarkable incivility through the passage of that day.' ” There was formerly an important salmon fishery in the Wareham river, and Hutchins quotes the testimony of an old fisherman that he once assisted in the capture of 47 fine salmon at a draught, weighing in the aggregate 60 score pounds. The fish were taken to Wareham; failing to sell them there the party carried them to Bindon Fair, and sold them at 2d. a pound. Mr. Mate added interesting information about the eel and oyster fisheries.

The PRESIDENT having proposed, and Lord EUSTACE CECIL seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Alderman Mate, the party walked by the path across the heath, glowing with gorgeous blossom, to

#### ARNE CHURCH

where they were met by the Rev. SELWYN BLACKETT, rector of Wareham and perpetual curate of Arne, who had kindly come out to receive them.

Mr. Blackett said that the simple little church dated from the early part of the 13th century, but had been restored. It was interesting to observe that the heads of the windows were each cut out of a single stone. Arne used to belong to Shaftesbury Abbey, and when the tenants paid their rent they were given a ticket entitling them to a dinner at the Abbey any time they were passing. The church possesses an altar-slab of shelly limestone, of ancient date.

The Rev. R. GROSVENOR BARTELOT asked what became of the lovely old Trinity frontal ?

Mr. BLACKETT answered that it disappeared mysteriously, but he believed that it was in the possession of Lord Eldon, who, by the bye, presented the church with beautiful Communion vessels, silver-gilt, studded with rubies.

The PRESIDENT expressed the thanks of the Club to Mr. Selwyn Blackett for so kindly taking the trouble to come over all the way from Wareham to receive them, and he mentioned

that Mr. Blackett was a very old friend of the Field Club, who had helped them on many occasions.

Re-embarking in the boats, which had come round Pachin's Point from Russel Quay, the Club resumed the journey for Ower Quay. The motor launches were able to proceed in a fairly direct course ; but the tugs drew so much water that it was necessary for them to steam along the Wych Channel and right round Brownsea Island and up the South Deep or "Sou' Deep" Channel to the Ower Passage. This took a longer time, but the detour gave the passengers one of the finest and most exhilarating experiences of the day.

On landing at Ower Quay the party took tea, after which Mr. WILFRED PARKINSON CURTIS, F.E.S., kindly gave an address on "The Birds of Poole Harbour."

He considered the black-headed gull was an easy first, and estimated the colony close to Ower at about 2,000 pairs. He also referred to the colony at Littlesea, and the attempt the birds made to establish themselves at Brownsea, which attempt was frustrated by the keepers. He alluded to the nesting habits and changes of plumage, and also the habit of the birds in the winter congregating in large flocks, especially at night, and, if disturbed, rising with a babel of cries. He next touched on the shelduck, or burrow duck, and after describing its peculiar preference for nesting 9 to 15 feet down a rabbit burrow, referred to its many characteristics, and to the winter habit of seeking the open water outside the harbour in the daytime. He then dealt with the heronry at Arne, and after referring to the structure of the nest and gregarious habits of the birds dwelt on the terrible destruction wrought by it amongst the small fish in the harbour, and remarked that a drastic thinning out of the number of herons in and about the harbour was badly needed. He then remarked on the redshank, the ringed plover, and the common plover, and quoted an instance of the young of the latter a few days' old swimming from the Green Island to the mainland at Ower. Mr. Curtis remarked that the oyster catcher had, by reason of persecution, somewhat changed its nesting habits, now seeking fallow fields near the harbour, in preference to laying its eggs on the bare beach. He also said the bird is not strictly a resident, since it leaves the harbour for a month or six weeks in the winter. After a reference to the stockdove, he recalled the discovery by the late Mr. J. C. Mansel-Pleydell, a former President of the Field Club, of the fact that the curlew bred on the edges of the harbour, and stated that probably not more than 12 to 16 pairs bred in the vicinity, but that the number was largely increased by migrants in the winter. He stated that other birds bred on the shore, but not in sufficient numbers to be characteristic. Of the non-breeding



birds, he remarked on the large number of cormorants that had come into the harbour at daybreak to make havoc amongst the fish, and stated that the supposed habitual occurrence of the shag was an error, he only having seen one in ten years. He also dealt with the herring gull and black-backed gulls. In closing he said the winter migrants were too numerous for him to even give a bare list of names, leaving alone any adequate note of each bird.

The PRESIDENT, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Parkinson Curtis, took the opportunity to commend the good work being done by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

A ballot for new Members resulted in the election of three gentlemen, and (time not allowing of the proposed visit to Goathorn, at the invitation of Captain Marston, R.N.), a return was made to Poole Quay.



## THIRD SUMMER MEETING.

## SALISBURY AND STONEHENGE.

*Monday and Tuesday, August 15th and 16th.*

Present : The President and Mrs. Richardson, the Hon. Secretary, and nearly 60 members. From headquarters at the County Hotel the party paid a visit to

## THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,

where they were received by the Rector, Canon SANCTUARY, and Mr. DORAN WEBB gave an interesting description of the building, which was rebuilt in the 15th Century.

The handsome open-timber roofs, the fine monumental brasses, and pre-Reformation glass, notably the remains of a Jesse window, were all duly admired, and, in the vestry, the rich 15th century embroidery, originally supposed to be part of a cope, and afterwards used as an altar frontal. Canon Sanctuary exhibited pages of an ancient psalter—a Sarum antiphony—with both words and music.

From St. Thomas of Canterbury the party walked to the old Poultry Cross close by.

Mr. DORAN WEBB said that the cross was described in 1539 as the “High Cross,” and it was added “It is the place where poultry is sold.” To the original cross, of the 14th century, were added by a local enthusiast, the elder Pugin, the beautiful pinnacles and niches, which, owing to soft stone being used, looked now as old as the original parts of the cross.

“THE OLD GEORGE” was then visited.

An early 15th century hostel, in which decay has been happily arrested in the original oak beams. Mr. Doran Webb said it was pretty certain that the inn took its name from St. George of dragon fame, and not from George Merriott, of Somerset, who was alive in 1410. In 1457 the inn was damaged by fire. The face carved on the front of a massive oak corbel was supposed to be that of Henry VI., *ob.* 1461. While the party were in the so-called “Great Hall” Mr. Webb paid a warm tribute to the zeal of the proprietors for the preservation of the ancient woodwork and its uncovering so as to be

visible to the public. The party noticed with interest the ancient oak wainscoting. Especially interesting is the bedroom with its open-timbered roof supported by a massive principal and a corresponding kingpost. The eaves are adorned with beautifully-carved pateræ in the device of the Tudor rose, and the spandrels also tastefully worked.

THE "HALLE OF JOHN HALLE" (now a china shop)—a beautiful 15th Century house; the CROSS KEYS INN, with a picturesque wooden staircase, were depicted on the way to

#### ST. EDMUND'S CHURCH.

It was indeed hard to believe, as Mr. Doran Webb assured the party, when they had sat down in the present nave of five bays, that it was really not a nave at all, but the original chancel of the 15th Century church, the nave and transepts of which were demolished, after being damaged by the fall of the western tower of 1653.

The whole church originally measured from east to west from 200 to 300 feet, and was the longest and largest church in Salisbury, with the exception of the Cathedral. In or about 1539 the good people of Salisbury received so heavy a bill from their plumber for re-leading the lead-covered wooden spire that, to prevent the recurrence of a similar item of expense, they forthwith pulled it down. The new chancel was built by Sir Gilbert Scott.

TRINITY HOSPITAL—an ancient place of shelter, sustenance, and repose for twelve old men—was next visited.

The almshouse, said Mr. Doran Webb, was founded by Mr. William Chandler, who died in 1411. It consisted originally of chapel and hall, dormitory, kitchen, buttery, store-house, and solar. Rebuilt in 1704, it is now an excellent specimen of the much maligned "Queen Anne" period. The chapel preserves some of the old glass. Mr. Geo. Fulford, chairman of the trustees, courteously attended, with Mr. W. H. Baker, a local antiquary, and some fellow trustees, and by their kind leave, Mr. Hamilton Fulton, their clerk, produced for inspection the ancient communion plate, and the cherished papal bull. It was stated that the Elizabethan chalice bearing the date 1598 was given in exchange for the pre-Reformation chalice, and there is a paten of 1704, and a pewter flagon with the date 1707. The precious parchment, a bull of Pope Boniface, is a fine specimen of mediæval penmanship, of the date 1379, and promising a fortnight's indulgence for obedience to its behests.

The Club were taken next to ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH, which is said to have been rebuilt from a much earlier church which stood down by Harnham Bridge.

Even the present building is the oldest existing church in Salisbury save the cathedral, since the chancel and tower are Early English. The three-light east window was a restoration of 1849, replacing a Perpendicular window which was an undesirable anachronism.

### THE CATHEDRAL.

Shortly after four o'clock the Mother Church of the diocese was reached. The visitors were courteously received by the DEAN, who had asked Canon Bourne, from his long and familiar knowledge of the fabric, to act as guide on this occasion.

As he led the party on from chapel and chantry to choir and chapter-house, he dealt in detail, not only with the fabric itself, as beautiful in its symmetry and grace as a perfect poem, but also with the richly-dight stained-glass windows and monuments, the brasses and the banners, which repose under this mighty and marvellous efflorescence of Early English architecture. Calling attention to the pair of inconspicuous inverted arches built high up in the transepts, he mentioned how they were inserted, by the ingenuity of the mediæval builder, as a remedy against the perilous thrust caused by the erection of the tower. The spire was not begun until some 40 years after the completion of the Cathedral. The architect was not known, or really anything about the work. The only record preserved in the Chapter was that between the years 1335 and 1370 a great deal of money was spent upon building operations, and this presumably was upon the spire. It was supposed that a special book of account was kept, but this had been lost. The immense weight of the spire at once began to thrust the building away, and so the north and south inverted arches were built to counteract the movement, and this device had been successful. The spire is now 23 inches out of the perpendicular, with a list to the north-east; but for a couple of centuries it has not given way at all. We may here mention that in the cathedral the party were joined by Canon Eldon S. Banks, for 40 years the devoted and beloved rector of Corfe Castle, and since a canon residentiary in the cathedral city. In the circuit of the Cathedral Canon Bourne pointed out the tomb of John Bampton, a prebendary of the cathedral and founder of the Bampton lectures. He also called attention to the segmental cope chest, of which, he said he believed, only four fellow chests were extant in English cathedrals. Formerly every canon on attaining that dignity had to present a cope, and thereby a magnificent collection of copes came into being; but copes are not worn in the cathedral now. There was left only a red chasuble, probably in the reign of Queen Mary. In the retro-choir, or the Chapel of the Holy Trinity and All Saints, Canon Bourne halted

and invited his company to admire the extreme beauty of the slender shafts of Purbeck marble springing from floor to roof. From the Cathedral the way was led to the cloisters, the broad paved quadrangular walk, pillared and with groyned roof, bordering the square cloister garth, and thence the party entered the Chapter House, familiar to many present as the scene of animated debates at the Diocesan Synod. Canon Bourne invited admiration of the one central pillar of Purbeck marble, supplemented by slender columns of the same material, supporting like the trunk of a tree the roof of this flawless and glorious example of 13th Century architecture. The Canon referred to the carvings of Old Testament subjects right round the walls as "quaint and in some cases objectionable;" but while all assented to the description "quaint," the word "objectionable" did not seem anywhere justified.

The Dean then led the way into the garden of the Deanery, where Mrs. Page Roberts was awaiting the arrival of the Club, and an enjoyable and very welcome tea was laid upon tables under the trees.

#### MEETING AND DINNER.

At 7.15 a short business meeting was held at the hotel, at which four new members were elected. Five more nominations were announced, and (on the motion of Mr. Alfred Pope) the sum of £5 14s. was voted to the Maumbury Excavations Fund.

At dinner the club had the pleasure of welcoming two guests—Canon Bourne and Dr. Blackmore, who sat with the President and Mrs. Richardson. To everybody's regret, the Dean and Mr. Doran Webb were both unable to come.

The party walked after dinner to the Salisbury and South Wilts and Blackmore Museums, in St. Ann's-street; over which they were shown by Dr. Blackmore, brother of the deceased founder of the museum of that name, Mr. William Blackmore, of Liverpool and London.

The Blackmore Museum is famous throughout the scientific world for its magnificent collection of prehistoric flint tools and weapons, gathered not only in England, but from the Continent and indeed all quarters of the globe—"coliths," palæoliths, and neoliths—many of them, celts, axes, hammers, of great size and marvels of flint-knapping, and others, especially the neolithic arrowheads, beautifully pointed, barbed, and tanged, wonders of delicate workmanship. The arrangement of the collection is orderly and progressive, facilitating study and comparison.



## OLD SARUM.

At 9.45 on Tuesday morning a start was made for Old Sarum, that famous "city set on a hill," the *Sorbiodunum* of Antoninus, and, for many years before the Roman occupation, a hill fort of importance.

Its strategic value was recognised by the Saxons, and it became in the ninth century the object of contention between Saxon and Dane. Alfred in 871 gave orders for the strengthening of its fortifications. Sweyn is said to have captured and burnt the town in 1003, and here 30 years later died Canute, Sweyn's son. Herman, Bishop of the united sees of Ramsbury and Sherborne, in consequence of the decision of the Council of London held under Archbishop Lanfranc, translated the seat of the bishopric to Old Sarum, and in 1078 laid the foundations of a Cathedral which was finished by Bishop Osmund, the Conqueror's nephew, who drew up the celebrated "Sarum Use" which still bears his name. After it was deserted by Bishop Poore, who laid the foundation of the present Cathedral in 1220, and after the incorporation of the new city which sprang up around it seven years later, Old Sarum soon began to decay, and in 1331 the materials of its Cathedral and other buildings were brought down to build the present close wall, and possibly the spire in the city. The old town itself seems to have afforded a convenient quarry for all those in its neighbourhood who wished to build, so that when Leland in Henry VIII.'s reign viewed the place it was entirely deserted, "not one house, neither within nor without Old Saresbyrie, inhabited." The subsequent history of Old Sarum, how though deserted it still returned two members to represent it in Parliament, and became notorious as the rottenest of rotten boroughs until the Reform Bill swept it away, are matters of modern history. Purchased by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, it passed into the possession of the Dean and Chapter of Salisbury, who, having placed it under the protection of the Conservators of Ancient Monuments, have consented to the systematic excavation of the site which is now in progress.

On arrival at Old Sarum the party, who were accompanied by Dr. Blackmore and Mr. Doran Webb, were received by Colonel Hawley, who is in charge of the excavations, and who, leading the way, pointed out clearly exactly what has been done, and also stated what has been found, in the excavation of the Norman Castle.

The site of Old Sarum cathedral, lying between the prehistoric outer vallum and the Norman castle vallum, was uncovered some 80 years ago and then covered in again, and the work now in progress is on the site of the castle. Passing over the causeway and through the gatehouse, with its drum towers, and walking through the inner bailey, the party came to the site of the great tower

or keep, where the most extensive and remarkable work has been done. Some deep square vaults have here been cleared out to a considerable depth, showing the walls to be of massive well-squared stones, and closely jointed. Throughout the foundations the ashlar is an excellent example of Norman masonry.

Entering the Museum on the spot where all interesting finds are deposited, the party viewed the carved stones, remains of pottery and old glass, &c., recovered during the excavations.

The PRESIDENT, in expressing the thanks of the Club to Colonel Hawley for kindly acting as guide, spoke of how greatly the interest which the club took in Old Sarum had been enhanced by the excavations.

#### AMESBURY PRIORY CHURCH.

A drive over the downs brought the Club to Amesbury, where, under the guidance of Mr. Doran Webb, an examination was made of the Church, a fine cruciform building with a low central tower.

Its architecture dates from the 12th Century onwards. There is a handsome 15th Century wooden roof to the nave; the tower arches and transepts are of Early English work, the chancel being somewhat later. The present East window is an unfortunate bit of "restoration" by Mr. Butterfield, replacing a Perpendicular window (shown in Hutchins). A controversy arose, about the year 1860, as to whether this church, or a church some distance to the north, was the real priory Church; but Mr. Doran Webb was able to show ample grounds in support of the historic view. To Dorset visitors the quaintly carved Norman corbels were a reminder of Studland and Worth Matravers.

#### STONEHENGE.

After lunch at the George Inn, another drive over the downs brought the party to Stonehenge, to which they were admitted by the permission of Sir E. Antrobus.

Dr. BLACKMORE, standing upon the prone upright lying over the so-called altar or sacrificial stone, first described clearly the plan upon which Stonehenge was constructed, and then the different kinds of stone used—the larger stones sarsens from Salisbury Plain, obtained from the wasting of the Reading and Woolwich beds, and the smaller the so-called "blue stones," syenite or diabase, of which there are nine different varieties, and which are spoken of as "the mystery of Stonehenge," and it cannot be told whence they came. The plan of the horse-shoe enclosed in a circle is seen in similar remains scattered over a wide area of the world, ranging from the Indian hills through Persia, Spain, and the north of France to Salisbury Plain. Dr. Blackmore gave his



reasons for believing that Stonehenge was erected at the end of the Stone Age or the beginning of the Bronze Age. This is the only known place of the kind composed of worked stones, and the tools with which the bigger bits were worked are found in large numbers—large mauls with which the bigger bits of stone were chipped off, smaller ones which could be used with both hands, and yet smaller still, to be used with one hand, for doing the finer work ; and under ground one can find a quantity of chips. As to how the stones were got there, in Japan not long ago equally large stones were moved in a simple way on rollers, being hauled by teams of men. Dr. Blackmore called attention to the numerous barrows dotting the plain around. Altogether there are some 300 of them, of the Bronze Age, and bearing the same relationship to Stonehenge as a churchyard to a church.

Leaving behind them the plain dotted with barrows and passing Lake House, a fine specimen of Jacobean architecture, the club crossed the river Avon by the bridge at Woodford and reached Netton, beyond where, nestling among some old elms, is Heale House, where Charles II. lay hid after the battle of Worcester. Charming scenery lies between Netton and Stratford, where the river Avon pursues its sinuous course. Passing through a grove of beech trees they caught a glimpse of the old house at Little Durnford, and shortly after entered the village of Stratford. This church, some two miles from Salisbury, retains its 15th Century roodscreen, altered and added to in the 18th century, also a wrought-iron hour-glass stand of simple but good design. The tower was repaired in 1711 by Thomas Pitt, son of Governor Pitt, of diamond fame. The picturesque Vicarage house is known as Mawarden Court, from a family of that name who lived there in the 15th century. On the lintel over the entrance door appears the inscription :—*“ Parva, sed apta domino.”*

At tea at the County Hotel, the PRESIDENT voiced anew the indebtedness of the club to Mr. Doran Webb and Dr. Blackmore for their kind offices. Then the party left for the railway station.

Owing to the exigencies of available space in the present volume it has been found necessary to omit much interesting matter in connection with Wiltshire antiquities, notably two long contributions by the Rev. A. C. Alnack and the Rev. R. G. Bartelot. The latter appeared in the *Dorset County Chronicle* of Aug. 25th. [ED.]

## LAST SUMMER MEETING.

## ABBOTSBURY TO BRIDPORT HARBOUR.

*Tuesday, September 20th.*

The last Summer Meeting took the form of an excursion along the somewhat unfamiliar strip of the Dorset coast between Abbotsbury and West Bay. About 100 members attended. The President was unfortunately prevented from coming on account of indisposition; the officers present included the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Treasurer, the late Treasurer (Captain Elwes), the Editor, and the Assistant Secretary, whose assistance at these meetings has been as assiduous as it has been welcome.

## “ABBOTSBURY CASTLE.”

A stiffish climb brought the party to this great prehistoric earthwork, where they were met by Dr. COLLEY MARCH, whose extensive acquaintance with the subject of “Camps” enabled him to give an interesting account of the one under inspection.

As is clearly seen by a reference to the contoured map, Abbotsbury Castle or Rings is a promontory fort, an example of that selection of a site which minimises the work of fortification, since on the promontory side the ground sloped down steeply and there was less need of entrenchments. On the east side they found those deep ditches and lofty ramparts protecting the camp from the surface of the ridge. It was distant from Eggardon five miles and from Maiden Castle seven. Hutchins called the camp nearly square; but the Ordnance map showed it to be almost a triangle. Hutchins said that the area was 20 acres, whereas it is less than 10. Hutchins said again that in the middle of the western bank there is an entrance; but there is no entrance there, the only entrance being at the north-east angle, although Warne says that it is at the south-east angle. Leading the Club over the earthwork Dr. March pointed out two mounds on the seaward side which were probably *speculæ* or look-out posts, from which watchers could observe the approach of the enemy, coming possibly up the Fleet in their long boats. Such forts as this belonged to the late Celtic age, which is supposed to have begun two or three hundred years B.C., and long before that the sea was covered in the

summer with sea rovers who came from Scandinavia. Dr. March also called attention to an earthen ring and two barrows within the lines of the camp, but observed, contrary to Warne's opinion, that probably the barrows were there long before the camp was constructed.

A vote of thanks to Dr. March was moved by Captain ELWES.

### SWYRE CHURCH.

The Club then drove to Swyre, and there entered the church, where, in the regretted absence of the Rector (the Rev. T. Horton Roberts), who was away from home, some notes which he had thoughtfully prepared were read by the Rev. J. C. M. MANSEL-PLEYDELL.

The church, which dates from 1503, was (unfortunately) rebuilt in 1843 with the exception of the tower and chancel arches; and the pillars of the nave (so ran the notes) bear record to the execrable taste of the period. Of the bells in the tower, the devout and public-spirited churchwardens early last century sold one towards defraying the cost of repairing the roads! The members inspected with especial interest two nice brasses to John Russell, who died in 1505, and James Russell "and Alys hys Wyfe," who deceased, 1509, the grandfather and father respectively of the first Earl of Bedford, who was born at Berwick House, a former home of the Russells, who also had another seat at Kingston Russell. The only other object that claimed attention was the large and handsome monument, on the north wall of the chancel, erected in 1692 to the memory of James Napier, brother of Sir Alexander Napier, and an interesting example of the mural tablets of the William and Mary period.

### PUNCKNOWLE.

Of this picturesque little village, Sir Frederick Treves draws an admiring picture, the truthfulness of which the members present fully approved, especially in regard to the Manor House.

"Hidden in a garden behind the church is one of the daintiest and most beautiful of the manor houses in the county, a marvel of ancient dignity and peace."

When, by the courtesy of Colonel Walter L. Mansel, the party entered the grounds of his house and found themselves

face to face with its exquisite façade, all felt immediately that Sir Frederick Treves' enthusiasm was amply justified. The house, charming in design, with its protecting porch supporting a room above, is of that interesting period, the transition from the Elizabethan to the Jacobean.

The Rev. J. C. M. MANSEL-PLEYDELL, who received the Club, assured them that both Colonel and Mrs. Mansel were most glad to welcome them there, and to invite them to inspect everything there of interest, both inside and outside the house; but regretted that Colonel Mansel's delicate health did not admit of his receiving them himself. It was not known, continued Mr. Mansel-Pleydell, when the house was built. It belonged to the Napier family until 1700, when it was sold to a Mr. Clotterbooke, modernised into Clutterbuck, who migrated from Devon into Dorset to marry a daughter of the Chafyns, originally of Chettle. Inside the house the Club were much interested in the two curiously panelled rooms upstairs. The panels were occupied by ancient paintings, and they inspected the numerous portraits of members of the Chafyn and other families. The HON. SECRETARY drew attention to the portrait of the Rev. Mr. Chafyn, who was chaplain to the Dorset Rangers. The portrait is by the Dorset artist Thomas Beach, who painted the portraits of all the officers of that regiment, now hanging in Came House. Upstairs also was seen the original portrait of the famous sporting parson, the Rev. William Butier.

From the Manor House the church was visited, and attention was called to the extensive remains of Norman work. The Rev. R. H. GASH, the Rector, told the story of the pair of ancient fonts, the one resting on the other.

Bexington, on the seaward side of Puncknowle, used to be an independent parish; but during the 16th Century it suffered so much from a French invasion that the people abstained from rebuilding their burned church, and united with Puncknowle. Of that union there were two symbols in this church: the one was the Bexington font, the other the Bexington aisle. The church, like that of Swyre, is rich in associations of the Napper or Napier family. The Rector pointed to the memorial to Sir Robert Napper, whose humility expressed itself in the characteristic inscription:—"Reader, when thou hast done all thou canst, thou art but an unprofitable servant; therefore this marble affords no roome for fulsome flattery or Vaine Praise.—Sr. R. N. (Johannis Hamiltonis Scoto, Britannus fecit.)" Upon the church wall hang the tilting helmet, gauntlets, and spurs of Sir William Napier.

Leaving the church, the Club inspected the base and shaft of the old churchyard cross.

## BERWICK.

In Saxon times Berewick was the seat of the family of Tour or de Turri. Here the first Earl of Bedford, Thomas Russell, was born. Mr. C. Bryant kindly allowed the visitors to view the house ; but little remains of the original structure save some portions of the chapel.

## BURTON BRADSTOCK.

At the Church the Rector, the Rev. F. T. HARRISON, gave an interesting account of the parish.

Burton was "Bride-ton," the *tun* or village of the Bride ; and Bradstock, Bradenstoke, because it belonged to the priory of St. Augustine at that place in Wilts. Henry I. gave the manor to the Abbey of Caen, in Normandy, to redeem the regalia which the Conqueror had at his death handed over to that abbey. The church is a large, handsome, cruciform structure, principally Perpendicular, with a high tower adorned with battlements and containing five bells. Originally in that parish they had no less than six churches or chapels. The Rev. C. H. W. DICKER added a few words about the Norman history of the church, and called attention to the Jacobean communicants' rails, as prescribed by Archbishop Laud, and with projecting nobs supposed to be intended to help old people rise from the kneeling posture. Upon the front of the rails is carved the date 1686 and the initials of the churchwardens of that year.

## THE GEOLOGY OF THE COAST.

Some of the party from this point drove straight to West Bay, but a strong pedestrian contingent went across some fields to the spot where the little river Bredy approaches the beach. Here Dr. W. THEOPHILUS ORD kindly gave a most lucid and interesting lecture on the geology of the coast of Dorset. He first laid stress on the exceptional advantages offered by the coast of Dorset for the study of the geological formation of England, since, out of the different stratified rocks of the country, 24 in number, more than half, to be precise 13, were exposed in the Dorset cliffs.

In walking from the west at Lyme Regis to the east at Canford Cliffs, one finds all the formations arranged in their proper and unbroken succession,



the oldest in the west and the newest in the east. Shortly and crisply Dr. Ord led his audience all through the sequence—from the Lias of Lyme Regis, rich in the remains of the great saurians, and the Lower and Inferior Oolite of the West Bay Coast, through the Middle Oolite near Abbotsbury, the Upper Oolite north of Weymouth, the Chalk of the Lulworth Coast, then the Kimmeridge Clay, the Portland beds of the Purbeck coast from St. Aldhelm's to Durlston Head, just capped with the Purbecks, the Purbeck beds of Durlston Bay and the Wealden beds of Swanage Bay, with the Chalk reappearing at Ballard Down. At Swanage we for the first time leave the Mesozoic strata and enter the Kainozoic, more commonly now called by geologists the Tertiary. The Isle of Portland was an exception to his rule of the regular order of the beds, since there we have Kimmeridge Clay covered with Portland stone. Dealing next with the principal faults along the coast, due to secular cooling of the underlying strata, Dr. Ord mentioned the great fault at Eype Gap, where the Forest Marble and Fuller's Earth are faulted up against the Lias. Another fault a little to the west of Bridport Harbour has brought down the Midford Sands, which form the predominant feature of the cliffs from west of West Bay to beyond Burton Bradstock. From Bridport Harbour to the mouth of the Bredy we have only Milford Sands capped with Inferior Oolite, which is full of fossils. Dr. Ord called attention to how the summit of the sandstone cliffs east of the Bredy mouth have weathered back, a grey colour. This was due to the appearance on the top of the cliffs of Fuller's Earth, the next stratum above the Inferior Oolite. He pointed out how the Midford Sands at Burton Bradstock are characterised by calcareous bands which, being harder than the sandstone, stand out in relief owing to the softer sandstone weathering away, thus giving the cliffs the appearance of being horizontally ribbed. The capping of Inferior Oolite, which had here been thinned to ten feet, contained an enormous number of cephalopods, to which all the ammonites and belemnites belong. Of these and other fossils found in the neighbourhood he exhibited specimens which Mr. W. R. Bates, the Bridport geologist, had kindly brought down for inspection. Dr. Ord concluded a most interesting address, of which only a bald outline has been given, by speaking of the Chesil Beach, its constituents, and process of formation.

THE HON. SECRETARY, in the name of the members present, heartily thanked Dr. Ord for his lecture ; after which the party proceeded to Bridport Harbour, where tea had been provided on the most hospitable scale by Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Stephens.

At a business meeting which followed six new members were elected, and, on the motion of Mr. Philip Sturdy, sincere thanks were voted to all who had, in the capacity of guides and hosts, contributed to the enjoyment of a most successful day.

THE HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

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The membership of the Club throughout the past year has fluctuated between 390 and 400. There will probably be a fair number of vacancies at the end of June, and members wishing to propose friends should do so at once. The summer meetings last year were less well-attended than usual, owing partly to the uncertain weather, but the attendance at the winter meetings has slightly increased. There is still a balance in hand on the Summer Meetings' Account of over £5 ; so for one more year we will continue the 1s. 6d. per diem levy for " incidental expenses," instead of 2s. The accounts for the past year have been duly audited, and the vouchers pertaining thereto lie upon the table.

There is one other subject to which I should like to draw attention. One sometimes hears the regret expressed that there are not more sectional committees appointed in connection with the Club. We have already, it is true, a Publication Committee with the Hon. Editor as its corresponding secretary ; a Photographic Survey Committee, with Mr. Cornish-Browne as director ; an Ornithological, Entomological, and Botanical section of the Club directed by the President ; and a Meteorological section in the charge of Mr. Stilwell. But there is no reason, if it were thought desirable, why those workers in these sections who are members of the Club should not be banded formally into sectional committees, as contemplated by Rule 22, and also other sectional committees be appointed. For instance, the formation at this meeting of an Earthworks' Committee would be an immediate help to the Hon. Secretary, as such a committee could give much valuable help in drawing up the report on the subject which he has to prepare each year for the Congress of Archæological Societies, besides doing other useful work.



The whole subject is well worth the consideration of the members of the Club, and it would be a healthy sign if, for the next few years, not an annual meeting passed without at least one additional Sectional Committee being appointed.

A wise application of Rule 22 would certainly have the fullest sympathy of the Executive of the Club.



## THE HON. EDITOR'S REPORT.

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In the preparation of Volume XXXI. I find myself in danger of being overwhelmed by an *embarras de richesse*, through the possession of an unusual number of papers, of a degree of importance that renders their omission, and even curtailment, a question of some difficulty.

The contents include the following subjects :—"Matthew Prior," by the Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher ; "Dorset Privateering," by Mr. H. Symonds ; "Weymouth and Melcombe Regis during the Civil War," by Mr. W. Bowles Barrett ; "The Bettiscombe Skull," by Mr. J. S. Udal ; "The Pitts of Blandford St. Mary," by the Rev. C. Almack ; a further contribution on British Arachnideæ from the Rev. O. Pickard-Cambridge ; the remaining sections of Mr. E. A. Fry's "Dorset Chuntries ;" "The Normans in Dorset," by the Hon. Editor ; besides the Mansel-Pleydell Prize Essay on Geology, by Dr. W. Theophilus Ord (to whom our congratulations are due) ; and, we hope, a short account of this year's excavations at Maumbury, from Mr. St. George Gray. To the President we are indebted for the text of his valuable address, and for the Tables of Natural Phenomena so ably compiled by him.

The question of printing a catalogue of the great collection of Dorset Deeds given to us by Mr. E. A. Fry, upon which we have had the benefit of much learned and useful labour given by Mr. H. Symonds, is occupying the attention of the Publication Committee.

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NOTE.—The important Paper on "Lobsters" (read by Mr. F. J. Barnes on Dec. 14th, 1909), will, it is hoped, appear in the next volume of our Proceedings.—[Ed.]

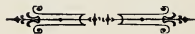
REPORT OF THE HON. DIRECTOR OF THE  
PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY.*May, 1910.*

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At the last meeting of the Field Club were shown the photographs contributed to the Survey of the County since the annual meeting in May, 1909. They numbered 159, and were the work of Mr. St. George Gray, Mr. Dicker, Mr. Scott Orr, and the Director. It has for some time been felt that the survey has not received the recognition and support from amateur photographers throughout the county that it deserves; and in order to determine what steps should be taken to make it better known, and to bring it into line with similar surveys in other counties, there was appointed a small committee, of which the members were the President, Captain Acland, Mr. Barnes, Captain Elwes, Mr. Pentin, and the Director of the Survey. The committee met at the museum on April 4th, and having taken into consideration what is being done in other places, and the methods of conducting surveys with success elsewhere, it then decided that the plan of keeping the collection in books should be abandoned for the future, and that, instead, each photograph should be mounted on a loose sheet, preferably one on a sheet, but two if the sizes are small, and the subjects suitable; that these sheets, with printed slips attached, giving full particulars of the photograph, should be stored in cardboard boxes, and catalogued after being arranged under parishes, and subdivided under the following sections:—Antiquities, Architecture, Art and Literature, Geology and Natural History, Passing Events, and Topography.

That platinotype and carbon prints should form the permanent collection, but that untuned bromides should be taken until a permanent print of the same subject was forthcoming.

That permanent prints should be paid for, if desired, at the rate of 2s. 6d. per dozen for half-plate platinotypes. That permits should be given to amateur photographers, who may be willing to work for the survey, as in another county the adoption of this plan has been found of great service in obtaining facilities for workers. And lastly, it decided that the present collection should be left untouched in the existing volumes, where so large a number of interesting photographs—many of which are now unobtainable—was got together with great labour and care by Mr. Barnes, who, it must always be remembered, was the originator of the Photographic Survey of Dorset. It is hoped that, with the assistance of the members of the Field Club, and of others interested in the county, or in photography, there may be assembled here, before very long, such a collection as will take a high place, both as regards merit and numbers, among the surveys of the English counties.



# Dorset Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.

Dr.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1910.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance at Bank, January 1st, 1909		6 16 9	R. G. Brocklehurst, for Paper on		
Members' Subscriptions	210	8 6	Dorset Bridges		2 2 0
Sale of Books	2	13 0	H. Pentin, Hon. Editor: Postages,		
Dividend on Consols	10	13 0	Telegrams, &c.		1 17 4
		223 14 6	Carl Hentschel, Ltd., for Half-tone		
			and Line Blocks	8 13 10	
			Wyndham and Co., Ltd., for repro-		
			ductions of Coins by Collotype	2 9 0	
			G. M. Woodward, for Half-tone Block		
			of Tortoise	1 5 0	
			McFarlane and Erskine, for 520 copies		
			New and Rare British Spiders	7 5 0	
			Sime and Co., Printing Proceedings	181 7 7	
				201 0 5	
			Subscriptions to Societies, viz.:—		
			The National Trust	2 2 0	
			Malmesbury Excavation Fund	5 5 0	
			Congress of Archaeological Societies	1 0 0	
			Balance at Bank 31st December, 1909		8 7 0
					17 4 6
					£230 11 3

I have examined the above account, together with the receipts and vouchers for payments made, and have found the same correct.

Dorchester Chambers, Bournemouth.  
3rd June, 1910.

J. H. CRIDLAND.







Anniversary  
Address by the President.

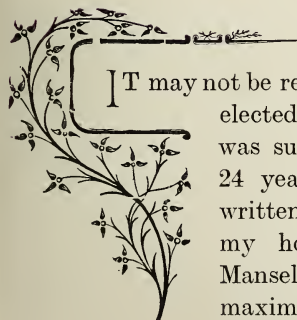
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NELSON M. RICHARDSON, Esq., B.A.

*(Read May 26th, 1910.)*

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OBITUARY.



IT may not be realised by some of the more recently elected of our members that this club was successfully carried on for the first 24 years of its existence without any written rules, under the presidency of my honoured predecessor, Mr. J. C. Mansel-Pleydell. One of his excellent maxims, which I have often heard him enunciate, and which, as well as many others, I endeavour to act upon, was that the club should always shew its loyalty when occasion offered ; and I cannot begin my address without expressing my sincere regret, which I am sure is shared by every member, at

the great loss which we and the whole kingdom have sustained in the death of an excellent King, who always thought for his subjects, and was invariably ready to give up his own pleasure and comfort in order to perform duties which must often have been troublesome and irksome to him. I feel sure that you will approve of the action of your executive body, who deemed it to be only a suitable mark of respect to his memory to postpone this meeting, which was originally fixed for May 19th in the week in which the late King's funeral was to take place. The list of those whom we have lost by death in the last twelve months is shorter than that which I laid before you last year with so much regret, but it includes one of our very few remaining original members, Captain J. W. T. Fyler, who was well known and popular in Dorset, but did not take any active part in the work of our club, though he occasionally attended its meetings. We have also lost amongst our members Mr. R. S. Freame, who, though not an original member, yet joined the club in 1878, only three years after its foundation. The Museum possesses some interesting remains of *Ophthalmosaurus* presented by him with other fossils, and described by Mr. Mansel-Pleydell in Vol. XI. of our Proceedings. Miss Emma Burt, who joined in 1894, occasionally attended our meetings, and will be remembered by many of us, as well as by myself, for the kindly and hospitable welcome accorded to the club by her father and herself at the meeting at Swanage in 1892. Colonel Ferguson was elected in 1900, and the Rev. Nigel W. Gresley, who was elected only last year, would, I think, from what I have heard of him and seen of his interesting collections in various branches, have made a valuable member of our club. I should like also to refer to two former members. The late Earl of Moray, when living in Dorset, took great interest in the club, and was, like his brother, a keen observer of natural history, especially in regard to animals and birds. He left Dorset to reside in Scotland about 1894, and resigned his membership some years afterwards. His brother, an original member and vice-president of the club, succeeds him

in the title. The other former member is the late Mr. Vincent Robinson, who belonged to the club for some years, and in 1899 entertained its members at Parnham, where he had brought together a large and valuable collection of art objects, in which he was a great connoisseur. A copy of the finely illustrated catalogue of these was presented by him to the Dorset County Museum Library. I now proceed to touch upon some of the points in which science has advanced during the past twelve months.

### ZOOLOGY.

The chief recent discovery in connection with the researches of the Royal Society Commission on sleeping sickness is that the flies conveying the disease may remain infective for a much longer period than was supposed, up to at least 75 days, and not improbably for the rest of their lives. A conference has been held at Simla to consider the best means of destroying the mosquitoes, which carry the infection of malaria, but it was realised that local conditions, which were extremely favourable in Ismalia, had much to do with success in the crusade against them, and in many places the operations would be difficult and costly. Some of the small organisms which play so important a part in disease are still unknown, such as that of vaccine, which is believed to owe its energy to a protozoon. It has been shown that by storing water containing cholera bacilli, it becomes pure in less than three weeks. This has been tried with artificially infected water from the New River and elsewhere. It has been suggested that the wheel-animalcules, or *Rotifera*, owe their remarkable universal distribution over the earth's surface, many of the same genera, and even species, being found from the Poles to the Equator, to the fact that they can be dried up and carried about by winds and come to life again; but it has been shown that this applies only to a very few species, the bulk dying directly under such treatment—their distribution must,

therefore, be ascribed to other causes. In the Shackleton Antarctic Expedition, experiments on rotifers shewed their wonderful powers of resistance to low temperatures and ultra-salt water, which powers are necessary, seeing that they are only thawed for a short time in the summer, being frozen up all the rest of the year—a pleasant existence ! Organized war is now being made against the locusts in South Africa, with some success ; but the insects are so prolific and destructive that the campaign is never-ending. In connection with this it may be mentioned that the Government has appointed an African Entomological Research Committee to deal chiefly with the diseases in which insects play so conspicuous a part as carriers. The magnificent collection of Micro-Lepidoptera, from all parts of the world, presented some time ago to the British Museum by Lord Walsingham, whom we have the advantage of numbering amongst our members, is now to be removed to the Natural History Museum, and the importance of the gift may be appreciated from the fact that the collection is the finest in existence, and adds about 45,000 species to the 40,000 already in the Museum. The smallest known insect, measuring only about 1-125th inch in length, has lately most obligingly introduced itself to the scientific world by walking into the field of a microscope, otherwise it would undoubtedly have remained unknown. It belongs to the Hymenoptera, and may be one of those whose larvæ live on the contents of the eggs of moths or other insects. It is an Indian species, and rejoices in the name of *Alaptus magnanimus*. Great attention is now being devoted to research amongst fish, and the North Sea and Baltic and adjacent waters have been well investigated by the bordering countries, especially England, so that much is now known about their inhabitants. It is found that some years are far more favourable for the breeding of fish than others, and that the products of these years largely preponderate in the catches. Though the young eels have been found in different stages, and their life history is practically known, neither the eggs nor the actually spawning fish have yet

been met with. Of the number of marked plaice liberated, no less than from 46 to 66 per cent. have been re-captured, which shows that a considerable proportion of the fish at any time on the fishing grounds are actually netted. The Marine Biological station in the Isle of Man and other similar institutions deal more generally with the marine fauna, and give valuable results, perhaps all the more so in that they are not limited in the object they have in view, which is the extension of scientific knowledge generally, and not only the good of the fisheries. An aquarium has lately been opened to the public at Madras, being, I believe, the first large one in a tropical country. Some very successful transportations of salmon eggs to New Zealand have been made, but the rearing of the young fish has hitherto been a failure. Some tropical fish from the Bermudas and elsewhere have a chameleon-like power of changing their colours, and a plain leaden-coloured fish will, under the influence of excitement, shew a series of white bands or even become wholly whitish, the descriptions which have been made of them as separate species being thereby rendered valueless. Through examination of the contents of the crops of grouse it has been shewn that, contrary to the common belief, they eat considerably of caterpillars and other insect larvæ, spiders and slugs. It is interesting to read that certain New Zealand birds have the same habits in snail-eating as our thrush, the ground round a suitable stone being strewn with remains of large snail-shells. Cuckoos in this country appear to have some discrimination as to where they lay their eggs, but it has been observed that Australian species are much more casual in their selection, and that their eggs rarely resemble those of the nest where they are laid, and besides this they will sometimes lay in the nests of granivorous birds, so that the young cuckoo starves, or in a nest already containing a cuckoo's egg. A good deal of theory has been evolved with regard to bird migration, but some remarkable results have lately been obtained from the marking of storks and other birds. A stork marked on the shore of the Baltic



has been found in Basutoland, and one marked in Hungary in Natal, and other similar cases show that European storks habitually migrate to South Africa. Why they should go such an unnecessary distance to obtain the desired climate is a mystery. A system of marking with small rings, numbered and addressed, has been started by the Editor of "British Birds," Mr. Witherby, of High Holborn, and anyone able and willing to take part could help to elucidate this very puzzling subject. Bird migration is also being similarly investigated in America. A novel explanation of the great mortality which occurs amongst shrews in autumn is that they die of old age, their life extending to about fourteen months. This is supported, the author says, by the fact that all caught after November are young ones. An interesting method of existence is seen in the African jerboa in the desert where water and even dew are unobtainable for long periods. The jerboa buries in the sand a sufficient number of small juicy melons to last him during the dry season, and with them satiates his thirst. Other desert animals seem to obtain liquid in a similar way from succulent plants, though I am not aware that they bury them. Experiments have been recently made on the power of imitation in monkeys, which former experiments have not always shown to be so great as is popularly supposed, but in this case out of 11 monkeys, seven imitated each form of test in such things as simple arrangements for opening doors, &c., whilst two monkeys failed altogether, the other two being partially successful. The President of the Zoological Section at the British Association Meeting last autumn dealt with the question of the disappearing species of animals, which are chiefly becoming extinct through man's agency, whether, like some of the whales, destroyed for useful purposes, or the large animals of Africa and elsewhere for amusement, or the beautiful birds of various countries for dress. Africa, Australia, America, and indeed many countries, have now reserves where these persecuted species may be safe, and laws, more or less, to protect them; but these remedies are



only partial. Another way in which animals are rendered extinct through man's agency is by the introduction of species into a new country where they often cause the destruction of some native species. This is taking place to a great extent in Australia through European foxes, cats (which run wild), &c. These animals, once introduced, it is almost impossible to control.

### BOTANY.

The recent publication of a report on the lichens collected in the Arctic regions by the "Fram" Expedition, 1902, has added to our knowledge of these low plants which form so important a part of the Arctic flora, 161 species being recorded, including eight new to science. The whole number of Arctic lichens known is about 500, of which three-quarters are also found in the Tyrol and two-thirds in Germany. Whilst on the subject of lichens I should like to mention that the Dorset Museum has lately received a present of a collection of lichens, chiefly, if not all, Dorset, with names and localities. As some of our members may have been prevented from studying this somewhat obscure group by the difficulty of naming their finds, I hope that by this welcome gift they may be encouraged to investigate this branch. I would remind them that it is in these obscure groups that there is the best chance of making new discoveries and finding species new to science. That there are still spots on the earth to reward the botanist with the discovery of new species is proved by the collection of 25 species of the genus *Impatiens*, or Balsam, from the Philippine Islands, of which all but two were new to science. The increased consumption and scarcity of wood was one of the subjects brought forward at the British Association meeting in company with the still more important wheat problem. It would appear that America is consuming more than three times the amount of wood she is producing yearly, and Canada, with her vast

forests, is not preserving them as she ought to do. Many woods have doubled in price in the last 22 years, but if this condition of things continues, the next generation will be very short of timber. The discovery of large quantities of stones, enclosed in the wood of trees, chiefly in the root material, near Faversham, has suggested this as a possible means of transportation of stones to distances across the seas, as has been so largely done by ice in past times, but I doubt if this would account for many stones, as trees generally rot where they fall instead of floating out to sea. The fact brings to my mind the practice which is still, I believe, or was recently, carried on by savages in the Pacific and elsewhere, of placing a stone implement in a cleft or hole made in a living branch of a tree, and leaving it until the wood had grown up considerably around it, so as to fix it firmly in its substance. The branch is then cut off, and forms an excellent handle. I do not know if there is any evidence to show whether this method was used in Neolithic times, or whether the stone axe was always fastened in a cleft stick with gut or thongs of skin.

#### GEOLOGY.

Anything that will throw light on the duration of geological periods is always interesting, and a stratum of clay at Stockholm, formed during the melting and retreat of the great ice-sheet in Sweden, is marked with a series of dark and light bands, which it is suggested were formed in different parts of the year, the light bands being caused by the melting of snow in spring. These bands have been traced for great distances, and, if the theory is correct, show clearly the length of time occupied in the formation of the stratum. A serious earthquake occurred in Mexico on July 30th last, and an eruption in Teneriffe in November, with streams of lava which did much damage. More recently, there commenced on March 23rd last, an eruption of Etna, large streams of lava moving onwards at the rate of up to 40 yards

an hour. Fortunately the damage is not as extensive as might have been expected. The address to the Geological Section of the British Association by its President, Dr. Smith Woodward, one of our honorary members, is well worth reading by others than geologists. He deprecates much the views of those who expect to find complete series of animals in a fossil state, for the gaps in our knowledge of fossil faunas and floras are great and numerous, and will probably never be even approximately bridged over. Another subject into which he enters is the old age and death of races without any obvious cause, and the signs which accompany its approach, such as gigantic size, as in the *Dinosaurus*, and the extreme development of excrescences, such as spines or horns, as in the *Pariasaurus* and the Irish elk. A thigh bone of a species of Dinosaur has lately been found in German East Africa, measuring 6ft. 10in. in length, or 2 feet longer than that of the *Diplodocus*, the immense reptile whose cast is in the Natural History Museum. A skull of *Megalosaurus* has for the first time been discovered. It was found at Minchinhampton, and is thought to belong to a different species from *Bucklandi*, represented by the jaw at Sherborne, of which we have a cast in the Dorset County Museum. A series of remains of another large Dinosaur (*Trachodon*) from Wyoming has lately been acquired by the British Museum, including some remarkable impressions of its skin. The only other fossil I shall mention is small, but most interesting. We have all seen in our gardens the leaves with round holes cut out of them by the leaf cutter bees to line their nests, if we have not observed the nests themselves and the bees. A bee, closely allied to our present-day species, and a specimen of its work on a leaf, much the shape of a willow leaf, have been found in Miocene shales in Colorado, showing the great antiquity of the habit amongst these insects. New minerals, as well as fossils, are continually being discovered, and an appendix to Dana's Mineralogy, covering the years 1899-1909, enumerates and describes no less than 60 from different parts of the world.

## ASTRONOMY.

The most startling astronomical event of the last twelve months is undoubtedly the sudden appearance of the splendid comet which, for want of a better name, we will continue to call 1910A. It was first seen, as far as is known, by some workmen employed at the Premier Diamond Mine in South Africa and had eluded observation until it had become a conspicuous object in the heavens. Soon after the end of January it ceased to be visible to the naked eye. I first saw it shortly after sunset on January 22nd. The nucleus was then bright, but not so much so as the brighter stars, and there was a short tail. The clouds prevented it from being seen regularly, but on January 29th, about 6.30 p.m., the nucleus was quite inconspicuous, but there was a magnificent tail reaching upwards in the form of a slightly-curved spray to a distance of about 45 degrees. At half its length from the nucleus this tail was of about the same brightness as the Milky Way. In contradistinction to this, Halley's Comet, a well-known visitor of  $74\frac{1}{2}$  years period, possibly remembered by some of our oldest members, has been before the public for months, and the first naked-eye observation reported in Dorset was from Lyme Regis on April 25th, about 4 a.m. After May 20th the comet should be visible in the evening. Its appearances have been traced (so it is supposed) for a very long way back, including one at the Norman Conquest, and probably some of the numerous comets figured in the Nuremburg Chronicle of 1493, which I showed at our last meeting, represent it. Several bright meteors have been recorded, but nothing to compare with that of February 22nd, 1909, in which the train lasted for nearly two hours, which I described in my address last year. One was seen in France on April 20th, 1909, one in daylight on October 6th, 1909, with Leo as a radiant point, one on February 17th last with a train visible for seven minutes, and one on February 27th. The only evidence of the November meteors seen by Mrs. Richardson and myself last year was one very bright one in

the early evening of November 13th. For many years attempts have been made to solve the question of the nature of the zodiacal light by means of its spectrum, but it is so exceedingly faint that the subject is attended with great practical difficulties. In 1874 it was in this way shown to be most probably caused by reflected sunlight, and recently fairly successful photographs of the spectrum have been obtained after  $12\frac{1}{2}$  hours' exposure, which confirm this theory. It is supposed that sunlight is reflected from a band of small bodies surrounding the sun. As I mentioned in my Address of last May, it has been practically shown by photographs during an eclipse that no intra-Mercurial planet exists of nearly sufficient size to account for certain observed perturbations in Mercury, Venus, the Earth, and Mars, but these might be caused by a number of small bodies such as are supposed to account for the zodiacal light, which tends to confirm this theory as to its nature. A fine Auroral display was seen in England and over the whole route between England and the United States on October 18th last, whereas on September 25th Australia witnessed the finest display of Aurora seen there for 50 years. Definite proof is now forthcoming that new canals are being formed in Mars, in addition to those already known, the new ones being too conspicuous to admit of their having been overlooked during all the years in which Mars has been under special observation for this phenomenon. In 1907 it was considered to be certainly proved that water existed in Mars, and it is now proved that free oxygen also exists there. The difficulty is that the spectroscope does not discriminate between water and other things in suspension in our atmosphere and in that of Mars, the ray of light from Mars having to pass through both, but recently, by photographing and comparing the spectra of Mars and the Moon, taken at the same time, it has been shown that the atmosphere of Mars contains more oxygen than that of the Moon, that in our atmosphere being the same of course in both spectra. Curiously, on this occasion, no water could be traced in Mars, but this



may merely mean that the air there was in an exceptionally dry state last September, when Mars was very near the Earth and convenient for study. From complicated calculations of observations on Neptune's satellite it has been shown that the equator of that far-distant planet is inclined at an angle of about 27 degrees to the plane of its orbit. A meeting of the International Astrographic Congress for making charts of the stars and for other astronomical purposes, was held at Paris in April, 1909, and considerable progress was reported in various directions. By methods connected with the colour of the stars it has been shown that there is probably a small absorption of light in space, but very much smaller than some astronomers had assumed. It has been suspected, and has now been proved, that the moon causes a small tide in the solid earth as well as in the water. The height of this tide is probably about 13 inches. A tide has also been detected in the solid earth caused by the sun's attraction, and also a slight tilting owing to the heating of the tropics by the sun during the day, but these movements are of exceedingly minute dimensions. It also seems to be the case that in land near the sea the weight of the high tide depresses the land underneath and near it, and consequently tilts up the adjacent land, though to a very minute extent, so that at high tide it slopes a little more towards the sea than at low tide, and, for instance, the wall of a house facing the sea, which is vertical at low tide, will lean a little towards the sea at high tide.

### METEOROLOGY.

Although there was an excess of rain over all England in 1909, except in the south-west, yet the duration of bright sunshine was also in excess, except in the north-east. The temperature was, however, below the average over the whole kingdom, and the general impression was that of a cold, summerless year. In the week ending October 30th, the rainfall at Broadstairs amounted to 5·79in, in three days,



and elsewhere there were considerable falls, including 3·32in. at Brighton in 24 hours. The hitherto highest record of the number of hours of sunshine in any month was beaten in May, 1909, when 326 hours were recorded at Greenwich, and even more in the south of England. At Weymouth Mr. Brown's record at the meteorological station was 326½ hours, being nearly 100 hours above the average. The Meteorological office has determined in future to issue forecasts of weather more than 24 hours ahead, when circumstances justify this course, but not, as I understand, regularly. The Paris floods of February last, which caused such destruction and suffering in that city, rose higher than on any previous recorded occasion since February, 1658, and were doubtless produced by the conjoined effects of a sudden rise of temperature, which melted the snow, and a large but not unusual rainfall. In a very different part of the world—the Sea of Aral—which is supplied by two good sized rivers, but has no outlet and is kept to its level solely by evaporation, has of late years been rising. Its height is so much more dependent on meteorological conditions than that of most lakes that I mention it under this heading. For a long time before 1880 it had been falling as far as records show; but since then, owing to increased rainfall and possibly fewer hours of sun, it has risen by 10 or 11 feet. I believe that there are traces of ancient river beds, by which it emptied itself in former times when it rose sufficiently high, and on the other hand it seems probable that it has at times been in the condition of a marsh owing to extreme lowness. There is some evidence that it was in this state in the time of Marco Polo (13th century). Experiments and observations on dewponds have been lately carried on, but the full explanation of their working does not seem to be yet forthcoming. The temperature of the water in the ponds does not seem low enough as a rule for the deposition of dew. It is considered that the straw placed underneath them when made is merely used to prevent the clay with which they are lined from cracking, and has nothing to do with the deposition of dew. If they are

shallow they are apt to dry up ; if the water is deeper, its depth is maintained. A rain gauge in the hollow of the pond produced about a third more rain than on the open down, but I doubt if any conclusion can be drawn from this as to the amount of rainfall, as the wind in an exposed place would blow some of the rain out of the gauge as fast as it was deposited. In the Peak of Derbyshire there are quantities of such ponds, or "meres" as they are called, but they are always assisted with arrangements for drawing the surface water into them, when possible, which suggests that they are the better for a little help. In connection with this subject, artificial dewponds are advertised, consisting of one shallow metal tray inverted within another in which it is claimed that a continual supply of water is deposited. Dr. March has had for years a glass aquarium in his garden at Portesham with a cover raised a short distance above it, and he tells me that this simple apparatus is always full of water, which is, I believe, deposited on the inside of the cover and falls into the vessel below.

### ELECTRICITY.

The Post-office has recently completed arrangements by which it takes over the whole of the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy in this country with all improvements which may be made during 14 years, so that in future it will be worked in connection with the inland postal telegraph service. The selective power of this form of telegraphy has been improved, so that messages can be sent from a station to another particular station without reaching others, by so-called tuning. The transmission of photographs by electricity has much developed and is now used commercially for news purposes. Electricity is also used on a few farms practically in agriculture, and increases the yield 30 or even more per cent. The method is to suspend a network of galvanised wire about 18ft. above the ground and keep it charged with electricity for about eight or ten hours a day

whilst the crop is growing underneath. For medical purposes the use of the Röntgen rays has been much improved, and they can now be used to detect early stages of disease in various organs which could not so well be perceived by other means. A non-magnetic ship was last June launched with a view to its making a magnetic survey of the earth, which is expected to take about 15 years. The ship is entirely constructed of non-magnetic materials (with slight necessary exceptions) to facilitate the work of the survey. A magnetic storm of unusual intensity took place on September 25th last, beginning suddenly at 11.43 a.m., and lasting till 8.30 p.m., after which very little disturbance was felt. The oscillation of the needle was large and frequent, and the storm was felt all over the world, but the causes giving rise to it seem uncertain and little understood. There had been on the previous day an extensive disturbance in a large sunspot which might probably have some connection with the terrestrial magnetic storm. The presence of magnetic effects in the sun was proved and can be observed on the earth by means of the spectroscope through a discovery of Zeeman that the lines in the spectrum are duplicated in the presence of a magnetic field in the source of light. From recent observations it seems probable that in places where deposits of petroleum exist, magnetic disturbances occur in connection with them similar to those caused by deposits of magnetic minerals. This may, if confirmed, be of use in the future in discovering new petroleum deposits.

#### CHEMISTRY.

The statements in the daily papers of the isolation of a small quantity of polonium and of its enormously greater intensity of action than radium must be received with some modification. Polonium has before been separated, but it is so soon changed into helium and another constituent, probably lead, that its powerful effect is very fleeting and, unless means can be found of producing it in larger quantities, of comparatively little practical use. In connection with this

subject I may echo the remarks of the President of the Chemical Section of the British Association and say that we must either have a new definition of an element or exclude radium, uranium, polonium, and various other substances from the list of elements, for if a substance gives off an emanation, or divides into two other substances, how can it come under the well known definition of the term "element," which is not capable of such division? It has lately been found that potassium emits a radiation, though in a much less degree than radium. Native Tantalum has been met with for the first time in gold washings in the Ural mountains, though in very minute quantities. It is found that aluminium is unsuitable for shipbuilding as it becomes corroded in sea water. Another discovery of a different nature is that when certain dry soils are wetted, heat is evolved, which may perhaps have some influence on the growth of plants. A very delicate test for the presence of blood is a solution of benzidine in acetic acid, which, when brought in contact with blood, becomes of a brilliant blue colour. After many attempts it is at last probable that the chemical nature of the red colouring matter of the blood and the green colouring of plants, chlorophyll, will be discovered, the latter being a salt of magnesium. I think that after the President's Address to the Royal Society last November I need no excuse for giving you what is no doubt a fragmentary and incomplete account, though I hope correct as far as it goes, of chemical progress. He alludes to the difficulty of understanding the researches in that branch by non-specialists, and asks if it would not be practicable for some of their distinguished chemists to give, in language intelligible to scientific men generally, an outline of the progress of that branch of science.

#### ENGINEERING.

The formation of a Government Department for Aerial Investigation marks a step in the development of this new method of transport which is either already, or is about to

be applied, in one instance at least, to a regular passenger service in Germany. A flight across the English Channel has been successfully accomplished in an aeroplane, and we have just heard of a second one, and on other occasions flights up to more than 100 miles in length have been made in these machines, such as the recent flight from London to Manchester. In a manned balloon, a record height of 38,715ft., or rather over seven miles, has been attained. In regard to motoring on *terra firma*, it is not improbable that special roads for the sole use of motorists will be constructed, which will no doubt be an advantage to those who use them, and a far greater advantage to those who do not. A conference on roads was held in London in May last and advised the use of tar, properly applied, to render roads dustless and more permanent. A new invention of a heavy car carrying 15 tons propelled by a motor and running on a single rail, has been tried with great success, the car remaining level under various searching tests. The equilibrium is sustained by means of gyroscopes. The improvement of American and Canadian waterways has been taken in hand, including the cutting of new canals, to relieve the railway traffic. An aqueduct on a large scale, 92 miles in length, is being constructed to supply water to New York from the Catskill mountains. One of the latest advances which has been made in the working of metals is that of cutting thick plates of steel by burning the metal with an oxyhydrogen blow-pipe. By this means an armour plate 6·3in. thick was cut for the length of a metre in ten minutes. Most metals will thus burn in oxygen at a high temperature, and can be treated in the same manner. It has long been a matter of speculation as to how the Indians of former times gilded the curious works of art that are found in different parts of central and South America, the film of gold being very thin and resembling that produced by electro-plating. Recent experiments have shown the possible truth of a traditional belief that it was done by rubbing the articles with the juices of certain plants. The material is metal containing a small quantity of gold, and the baser parts being dissolved, though very slowly,



by acid juices, a film of gold is left on the surface capable of being burnished. This process can be carried on much more quickly with nitric acid, but this would not probably have been available to the workers of that period. The measurement of standard lengths in terms of the wave lengths of light is much more accurate than any other, and has recently been adopted in this country to the extent of introducing into the Standards office an instrument for the purpose of such measurements. The number of wave lengths of red cadmium light in the French metre has been found to be 1,553,163.

#### GEOGRAPHY.

The most notable geographical feat of the past year has been the attainment of the North Pole by Commander Peary on April 6th, 1909. It is a feat which has been attempted by many and has cost many lives, but there seems little doubt that it has at last been accomplished. The scientific results of this successful journey are, perhaps, hardly worth all the exertions that have been made towards it, but so long as it was open to competition, many would undergo anything to be the first to stand on the earth's axis. The rival claim of Dr. Cook has not been generally admitted, and it would be wise of any intending traveller to that point to take one or two reliable witnesses with him. The South Pole is now the chief object of attraction, and various expeditions are being arranged for that region, so that we may, before long, be able to chronicle the presence of a human being at both ends of the earth. But in the midst of these exciting and adventurous feats, we must not forget the very valuable scientific work done by those members of Arctic and Antarctic expeditions who do not reach the Poles, for it is they who have given us what knowledge we possess of the Polar regions by patient and steady work under great hardships and perils. Such discoveries are the coal measures, 1,500 feet thick, found to exist in lat. 85 degrees S., showing a very different state of



climate in former ages, and many important zoological and botanical facts, as well as observations of meteorological and other phenomena. Another part of the world which has of late been the subject of expeditions is Central Asia, especially that barren and little known portion between India and China, including Tibet and Eastern Turkestan. Since the explorations of Drs. Stein and Sven Hedin, which I spoke of last year in my address, a French expedition has returned with wooden statues and paintings on silk, said to be earlier than the 11th century, and a large number of MSS., printed records, and records stamped on wood, of the 7th century, besides much topographical information. The Lorentz expedition to the interior of New Guinea has successfully reached the Snow mountains hitherto seen only from a distance, and found glaciers at a height of 1,500 feet, but details are not yet forthcoming. The geodetic survey along the African meridian arc is progressing, and is only delayed by want of funds. In an early map of the British Isles, recently unearthed in the British Museum, of a date probably before the middle of the 16th century, various interesting details are shown. Portland is mainland, whilst Corfe is given as an island. Though these can hardly be relied upon, they yet suggest, especially in the case of Corfe, the possibility of considerable changes. Portland, though called an island, is of course really a peninsula.

#### ARCHÆOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY.

The further excavations carried on at Maumbury Rings in the past season have tended to confirm the general idea that it was an amphitheatre for the display of combats between gladiators and wild beasts, and one of the most interesting discoveries, amongst many others of 1909, was that of a rectangular area, of about  $13\frac{1}{2}$  by  $17\frac{1}{2}$  feet in size, at the southern end of the enclosure, which is believed to have formed the den where the wild beasts used in combats were confined. Two more prehistoric pits containing antler

picks, &c., were also discovered and will be more fully excavated this year. There have been lately at least three instances of the discovery of very ancient human remains, of which two, found in the Dordogne, were whole skeletons, the first ever obtained of that date, other finds having been only of portions of the skeleton, chiefly skulls. What is said to be the earliest known human bone was found near Heidelberg about 80 feet deep in a stratum of sand, and consists only of a lower jaw with its teeth intact. These teeth are such as might be found in a skull of the present day, but the absence of chin, the general thickness, and other features proclaim an early origin. Worked flints are said to have been found beneath the glacial boulder clay in Suffolk, but it is very desirable that the existence of man at that early epoch should rest on some more substantial evidence than these eoliths, the apparent rough workings on which are, in the opinion of many, due to natural causes and not in any way to human action. What is said to be the earliest human figure has been unearthed near Ratibor, in Silesia, in a stone age dwelling. It is made of clay and represents a female divinity. Some ancient pit dwellings have been found at Holderness, a prehistoric horse of about 14 hands, perhaps of neolithic times, at Bishop's Stortford, and the Hull Museum has lately become the fortunate possessor of the largest known specimen of a prehistoric boat, 48 feet long, made out of a trunk of oak and found in Lincolnshire in 1886. A report has been issued by the University of California on 425 of the shell mounds found in San Francisco Bay, the stone implements being neolithic in style, and the mounds having served as burial places, quantities of human bones are found in them. It seems probable that their makers were of the race of the present day Indians of that country. More rock engravings have been found in South Africa. They are chiefly of animals, and apparently much more elaborate in execution than the European palæolithic engravings and in higher relief. Their age seems uncertain. In a burial near Thebes of the 17th dynasty were found some string nets of fine workmanship, of very

rare if not unique occurrence ; the burial was untouched and contained much gold jewellery and other ornaments. Two years ago I alluded in my address to the finding of the tomb of Queen Tii (or Tiyi), the identification of which was somewhat doubtful, as the mummy was stated to be that of a young man ! This anomaly is now explained by the perusal of the writing on the sheets of gold which envelop him, which declares him to be Khuniatonu, the Queen's son. In a crypt at Rothwell, in Northamptonshire, are stored about 6,000 skulls, probably of the 14th and 15th centuries. It is interesting to note that the average measurements of these do not differ from those of Englishmen of the present day except that the Rothwell skulls are slightly larger and have somewhat broader foreheads. With regard to the alleged exceptional hardness of ancient bronze implements, it is stated that they do not owe their hardness to the purity of the metal, as they are of very impure quality, but that modern bronze can also be made very hard by hammering.

#### GENERAL.

I do not think that the corresponding societies meetings of the British Association last year offer anything very new and useful for the consideration of our club. Original observational work is recommended, and it is to be hoped that some of our members have always tried, and will always try, to carry out that recommendation, in their own special line, with more or less success. We cannot all emulate those great original observers, Darwin or Wallace, whose jubilee was celebrated with such *eclat* at Cambridge last June, when delegates from all parts of the world assembled to do them honour ; but I hope that the fact that since our last annual meeting Dr. Wallace has honoured our club by consenting to become one of its honorary members may have some influence in stirring us up to follow in the footsteps of his scientific work. The adulteration of our food is one of the most important questions of the present day, which accounts for the fact

that over 2,000 members and delegates from many parts of the world attended the International Congress on pure foods held in Paris last October. In spite of a certain amount of legislation, adulteration has increased alarmingly, and it is apparently difficult to get almost any pure food at all. The human frame is fortunately wonderfully adaptive, and less harm follows than might perhaps have been expected, but the evil is a serious one, and the Congress will, it is to be hoped, have the influence it deserves. You will observe from the notice at the head of the present programme that adulteration of food is the subject for the Cecil medal competition this year. I hope that we may get many competitors and that our club may in this way contribute its share in protesting against this infamous practice. The Pasteur Institute at Paris, which has hitherto been rather crippled by shortness of funds, has received a legacy of the large sum of £1,200,000, which will doubtless enable it to greatly extend its usefulness to mankind. Another large sum of £215,000 has also been given for medical research scholarships in this country. Renewed discussion has been carried on with regard to the government of the British Museum of Natural History at South Kensington, it being considered that its welfare would be promoted if the administration of the natural history collections were separated from that of the library and art collections at the British Museum, instead of both being under the management of the Principal Librarian. The extensive herbarium of our late member, Rev. R. P. Murray, has been presented to the British Museum of Natural History by his widow, and it has also received from Mr. F. D. Godman, one of the most distinguished members of our club, a valuable collection of insects from Central America. The laying of the foundation stone of the Imperial College of Science last July has called attention to the need of a museum for the better housing and arrangement of the present science collection at South Kensington. The art collections have now a suitable resting place in the Victoria and Albert Museum. Our sympathies with that remarkable people, the Japanese, will be strengthened

by the appointment at Oxford of the first Japanese lecturer in this country. There are many other things that we may learn from them besides their language. The last note I have for this address is that of the name of a recent book which struck me as possibly useful in our club, in order to obtain the most valuable work and material for our annual volume by getting to know on what members to put pressure for those objects. The book is entitled "How to Diagnose Genius," and proceeds to point out certain characteristics by which it may be known. The genius does not come usually from either a high or low social grade ; he develops at an early age ; he may be either eager, alert, impatient, and impulsive, or, on the other hand, painstaking, conscientious, self-criticising, and accurate, and I gather that he generally gives a good many anxious moments to his teachers and relations. If anyone knows of any geniuses amongst our members, may I ask them kindly to recommend them to the notice of the Executive.

I close my address with every good wish for our success in the coming year.







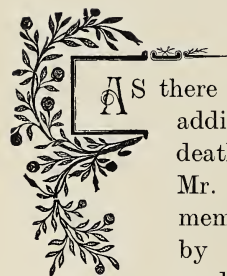
## Notes on the Present Condition of the Dorset County Museum.

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By **THE CURATOR.**

*(Read May, 1910.)*

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AS there has been no systematic account of the additions to the County Museum since the death, in 1904, of our honoured curator, Mr. Henry Moule, I venture to think that members of the Field Club may be interested by a brief statement showing the progress made since that date, and the re-arrangement rendered necessary by the erection of the galleries, presented by the late Mr. Charles Hansford.

In Mr. Moule's last report to the Field Club, he said, "For many years it had been eagerly wished that more Museum room could be found, and a complete severance effected between Dorset and non-Dorset things. If galleries were erected, all non-Dorset things might be moved into them and the Dorset collections would have good room and a chance of proper arrangement." How sincerely we all must wish that he had been spared to carry this out himself.

The Museum was open to the public on completion of the galleries on 4th July, 1904, and the re-arrangement, which





DORSET COUNTY MUSEUM, 1910.



was at first of a somewhat temporary character, was considerably delayed by the purchase of improved cases for many of the Dorset collections, as a memorial to the late curator, and also by the provision of several new cases for the galleries, paid for by a special fund raised for the purpose. As matters now stand, the division of the Dorset from the non-Dorset collections is complete, the whole of the floor space being devoted to the County ; of which we Dorset folk may well be proud, as it is universally admired by strangers.

All the Dorset cases (numbered I. to XXVII.) being now of pitch pine, and for the most part symmetrical in design, and no longer unduly crowded together, the general aspect of this fine building is greatly improved (see illustration). In the galleries the cases are black, and distinguished by letters A—T. These non-Dorset collections are classified, but as they are of a most miscellaneous character, comprising “odds and ends” from many different parts of the world, it is not possible to make a very successful arrangement. They contain objects of much value and interest, which are seen now far better than formerly, but the Council desire to conform as far as possible to the advice of General Pitt Rivers, given at his inaugural address at the formal opening of the Museum, January 1st, 1884, “that all the space and all our efforts should be reserved for collections that emanate from the county, or illustrate its history and industries.”

Mr. Moule was accustomed, in his annual reports to the Field Club, to give a fairly complete summary of the acquisitions during the previous year, both to Museum and Library. Such an attempt on my part to-day, having a period of five or six years to deal with, would obviously be most wearisome ; but it may be of interest to describe, first, the principal changes that have been effected in the arrangement of the collections, and then to refer briefly to some few of the acquisitions that stand out clearly as important, and as likely to increase the *prestige* of our County Museum.

First then as regards re-arrangement. Advantage has been taken of the necessary shifting of many objects into new cases,

to bring together those Dorset antiquities of the same period or class which had been previously separated. It has, for example, been found possible to arrange in 24 consecutive shelves, and on the brackets adjoining, all the cinerary urns, and sepulchral pottery from our barrows. The 127 specimens have been re-labelled, and a numerical and descriptive catalogue printed. The Roman pottery follows, occupying 22 shelves, with space for future additions. In one range of table cases, we now get all the Bronze exhibits, viz.: axe-heads, daggers, and spear heads, followed by the Bronze torcs, rings, brooches, &c.; in another case the objects of Kimmeridge shale make a collection not easily matched elsewhere; the Roman wall plaster, and the exhibits of glass, have each a division to themselves; the Roman coins have been placed in specially designed trays, and the Dorset trade tokens have been arranged in the same manner. An attempt has been made to bring into one case, a few of the best examples of the various types of flint implements, arranged after the classification of Sir John Evans; for the Museum has, in course of time, become possessed of such a large number of worked flints that the really good specimens were apt to be overlooked.

Of acquisitions to the Museum since 1904, perhaps the most valuable is the Roman mosaic pavement, found in July, 1905, at the lower end of Durngate Street, Dorchester, and now adorning the southern portion of the floor (see illustration), where indeed it looks so natural, and harmonises so well with its surroundings, as to be occasionally unnoticed by visitors. That one, and the mosaic floor previously laid, are perhaps the only Roman tessellated pavements, in a public museum, over which we can walk at pleasure. It has been so carefully described by Dr. Colley March in Vol. XXVII. of our Proceedings that I need say no more about it to-day.

In Mr. Moule's last report, May, 1903, he said that the most important addition to our Dorset antiquities that had reached us for a long time was the *loan* collection from Mr. C. L. Hall, of Osmington. Now, however, I am

happy to state that it is "a loan" no longer; it was purchased by the Council last year. The principal items are the stone mould for casting bronze celts, the leg of a stool made of Kimmeridge shale, three pieces of gold ring money, and a massive bronze neck torc. Another example of Kimmeridge shale manufacture has been given by Rev. R. Grosvenor Bartelot; the material is exceptionally hard, it is of conical shape, and partly hollowed, and is figured in Hutchins' "History of Dorset" and "Papers of the Purbeck Society." In 1906 we purchased a very fine Roman sword handle, or "grip," of bone; it was found in Dorchester during building operations, at the usual depth for Roman relics, and not far from a Roman pavement. It was submitted to Dr. C. H. Reed, who thought it sufficiently valuable to make a cast of it for the British Museum. It was also exhibited at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, and is figured in their Proceedings, April, 1906. A specimen of the same general design, but inferior in size and appearance, is figured in *Archæologia*, Vol. XLV., p. 251.

In connection with the geological side of the Museum, the most important undertaking has been the scientific and critical examination of certain series of fossils by our late Vice-President, Mr. W. H. Hudleston. He devoted many months to the work, re-arranging and re-naming where necessary, replacing inferior specimens with others from his own collection, and completing a series where gaps occurred. The one acquisition that stands out pre-eminently for notice in this department is the Chelonian skull, presented by Sir J. C. Robinson in 1909, and described and figured at page 143, Vol. XXX. of the Proceedings Dorset Field Club. Dr. Smith Woodward reported it to be of great rarity, and adds that "only one other such skull appears to have been met with in the Purbeck Beds of Swanage; the discovery of a second skull is, therefore, of much interest."

Although I have mentioned only a very few acquisitions to-day, it must be understood that during the five years, nearly every department has been enriched by gifts, or



purchases—geological, and antiquarian, and Dorset curiosities, ancient, mediæval, and modern.

As regards the library, I find that 300 volumes, or more, have been added during the period under review ; and though it is difficult to make a selection for special notice, attention may be drawn to the following works :—

Fifty-six volumes, chiefly on Archæological subjects, part of the library of the late Mr. Boswell Stone.

A complete set of Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries.

Nine large volumes, finely illustrated, the official account of the National Antarctic Expedition, 1901-4.

The English Dialect Dictionary, 6 volumes.

The Dictionary of National Biography, 22 volumes.

But as it may interest members of the Dorset Field Club, I will give a list of the books either relating to the county of Dorset, or presented by the authors, as being connected with the county :—

A complete set of the writings of the late Mr. R. Bosworth Smith, and a copy of “The Memoirs,” by his daughter, Lady Grogan.

Five volumes by the Earl of Ilchester—viz., “Memoirs of the Whig Party, 1807-21” ; “Journal of Elizabeth, Lady Holland,” and “Life and Letters of Lady Sarah Lennox.”

Four volumes, presented by Mr. Broadley—viz., “Dumouriez and the Defence of England” ; “Three Dorset Captains” ; and “Napoleon and the Invasion of England.”

“Highways and Byways in Dorset,” by Sir Frederick Treves, Bart.

“Old Stone Crosses of Dorset,” by Mr. A. Pope.

“In and Around Purbeck,” by Mr. Bond, and Miss Woodward.



Essays on Archæological subjects and other papers,  
by Dr. Colley March.

“The Life of Col. Whetham. A forgotten soldier of  
the Civil Wars.”

The works of J. F. Pennie, given by Mr. H. B. Middleton.

“Memorials of Old Dorset.” Edited by the late  
Rev. T. Perkins and Rev. H. Pentin.

“Ancient Furniture at Parnham.”

“Some Dorset Manor Houses.” Messrs. W. Prideaux  
and S. Heath.

“Essays on Political Subjects” by Lord Eustace Cecil.

“The Civil War in Dorset. 1642–60.” Bayley.

“Life of Arthur Acland,” by his son.

Six plays by Mr. Albert Banks.

Dorchester Borough Records.

Weymouth charters.

Dorset Records, and Dorset Parish Registers as  
published annually.





## Some Dorset Privateers.

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By HENRY SYMONDS.

(Read Dec. 14th, 1909.)

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THE ports of Weymouth, Poole, and Lyme Regis were the homes of many adventurous spirits who hazarded both life and substance on "private men of war" at various periods when the Royal Navy was unable to afford complete protection to the mercantile flag.

It may be well at the outset to define the legal theory which supported these commissions to make war, and to describe the preliminary formalities laid down by the Court of Admiralty, who exercised supreme control. Letters of Reprisal had originally a more limited scope than Letters of Marque, which latter authorised the holders to make seizures at sea outside the *marche*, or boundary of jurisdiction, of the Sovereign who granted the commissions. In course of time, however, the two terms became interchangeable, and a vessel holding a joint form of licence was known as a privateer. Reprisals

by individuals to whom Letters of Marque had been issued were justified in international law by the fact that such persons had suffered loss at the hands of the subjects of a foreign Power, for which redress could not be obtained by other means. Practically all maritime nations made use of these methods ; in our own country one of the earliest instances occurs in the year 1293, when a Patent Roll mentions Letters of Marque which had been granted against the King of Castile, and again, in 1387, permission is given to "take what they can for one year." The issue of these licences to make reprisals on the shipping of another state did not necessarily imply a condition of warfare with its Government, but in practice such reprisals were regarded as unfriendly acts, and a formal declaration of war generally followed, the other party to the dispute failing to appreciate such a nice distinction.

In Britain the Crown, after it had unsuccessfully preferred claims for redress, issued a general commission to the Lord High Admiral, authorising him to grant Letters of Marque to the aggrieved persons, and under Charles I. the more important of the regulations laid down by the Admiralty Court were as follows :—

1. The complainant shall prove the amount of his loss.
2. Shall execute a bond to bring in all captures to a British port.
3. Prize ships and cargoes to be kept intact until the Court have adjudged them to be lawful seizures.
4. After judgment the captor may sell ship and merchandise to cover his loss.

Customs were levied on dutiable articles brought in, and an additional toll of one-tenth was taken by the Court, which tithe was apparently a perquisite of the Lord Admiral, who appointed deputies to collect his proportion ; in 1625–6 John Drake and his son, Sir John, acted in that capacity for Dorset. The remaining sum was usually apportioned as

follows :—two-thirds to the owners who had fitted out the privateer, and one-third to the captain and ship's company, divided according to rating. The fees for the grant of a Letter of Marque when the Duke of Buckingham was Lord Admiral were £3 2s. 4d., with an additional £1 3s. 4d. if attendance was not made in London. (It is curious that Whitaker's Almanack for 1909 retains the out-of-date information that the stamp duty on a letter of reprisal is £5 !)

I will now turn from the general to the particular in order to show, as far as time will permit, the extent to which Dorset ports availed themselves of the privilege of endeavouring to recoup their losses at sea during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The records of the Admiralty Court and the Domestic State Papers yield a considerable harvest of references to privateering in connection with this county ; the earliest that has come under my notice is in 1588, when the Mayor of Weymouth says that the borough had not taken much benefit from Letters of Reprisal. The period immediately following the death of James I. saw the largest issue of these licences to help oneself and take the risks. Charles I. came to the throne in 1625 under the shadow of trouble with Spain, and shortly afterwards France made common cause with his Catholic Majesty ; this war brought about the grant of some seventy Letters of Marque to Dorset applicants within the space of four years, and the number of ships was still larger seeing that many were authorised to take with them a satellite in the shape of a pinnace. The object of this smaller vessel is not quite clear; she may have been used for scouting purposes, or perhaps as a convoy for captured prizes. In the cases of Poole and Weymouth, it is probable that the big ships had been built for the Newfoundland trade which then formed the staple industry of the two harbours. The merchants of the conjoined towns of Weymouth and Melcombe owned three-fourths of the vessels which were "set forth in warlike manner" from this county. Poole was next in point of numbers, and Lyme was responsible for only three or four. Many classes of Dorset people appear

to have shared in these ventures, the sons of great land-owners and several members of Parliament joining hands with the civic fathers and traders of the coast towns in the fitting out of private men of war. Nor were their energies confined to the work of preparation ; in some cases they went to sea in command of the vessels they owned or had chartered. Somewhat akin to the Letters of Marque, but more dangerous to the holders, were the commissions to take pirates, on which the Lord Admiral claimed an *ad valorem* tax of one-fifth. The fact that only four such commissions were locally applied for goes to show that there was no great desire to undertake that unprofitable work ; indeed, it was roundly asserted in 1623 that Weymouth supplied stores to the Algerian pirates who infested the coasts, and that the Admiralty officials connived at the practice. Be that as it may, it is certain that Elizabeth had found it necessary to send down commissioners to Poole to assist in suppressing a similar evil.

It may be convenient, at this point, to quote in full one of the warrants which authorised the issue of Letters of Marque, and to give in general terms the purport of the bond which was imposed upon an owner :—

23 No. 1625. The like com. to John Lockier of Waymouth Mellcombe Regis marchante to sett forthe the Dragone of Waymouthe burthen 80 tonnes. Gyles Bonde capt. Francis Saunders maister. 8 peecs of ordnance, 40 men, victualled 12 monethes. And her pinace called the Sealove of Waymouth, John Reeves capt. victualled for 12 monethes. Losses 6000li. Interponit cautio.

The bond which follows refers to a later commission granted to the same ship with a different pinnace :—

1626. Robert Pawlett *gen.* John Lockier merchant, Robert Roy merchant, and others of Weymouth are bound in £1,000 to the Lord High Admiral ; Whereas Thos. Pawlett, John Lockier and company are authorized by Letters of Reprisal to set forth the *Dragon* of Weymouth, about 80 tons, whereof John Lockier goeth captain and John White master, and her pinnace called *Hopewell* of about 30 tons whereof Robert Roy goeth captain and Clement White master, to take ships and merchandise of the subjects of the King of Spain. If the said owners within one month of return to port do pay 1-10th of

ships or merchandise to the Admiral, then this bond to be of no effect. Signed in the presence of Henry Russell, mayor, and Giles Greene, comrs. at Weymouth. A second bond provides that prizes shall be brought to a British port, and that bulk shall not be broken until after adjudication.

These two examples will serve to show the preliminary procedure.

Another enterprising owner, John Freke, obtained in 1626 both Letters of Reprisal and a commission to take pirates for his vessel, the *Leopard*, of Weymouth (240 tons), the largest of the Dorset swarm of hornets which were turned loose by Charles I. This fine ship was built at her port of registration, and was armed with 16 sacres, *i.e.*, small cannon, and four mynyons of cast iron ordnance, as appears in her Trinity House certificate.\*

She was commanded by Nicholas Strangways and her builder Nich. Audney sailed as master. Two years later the *Leopard* was transferred to Poole and recommissioned for another cruise, which ended in disaster, as she was wrecked on the Irish coast in 1628 with the loss of most of her guns.

What happened to these cruisers, which, singly or in pairs, roved the Channel and the Bay as far as the Mediterranean? Very little is known as to how many of them were captured or lost at sea, but at least one Weymouth ship, the *Willing Mind*, was "sunk by enemies." On the other hand there is some evidence that certain vessels returned in safety to the ways of peace; for instance, the privateers *Harry and John* and *Speedwell*, of Weymouth, were probably identical with two ships of the same names and town which were exempted in 1635 from visits by naval press gangs, being then engaged in the less exciting task of carrying Portland stone for the repair of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Chief among the commanders who survived the expeditions was the old freebooter, John Lockier, who ended his active

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\* An undertaking had to be given that the weapons authorised by these certificates would not be alienated outside the realm.



career by breaking his leg at the age of sixty-seven, when in charge of harbour works at Weymouth in 1647; unfortunately, his log books have not come down to us.

It was when fortune had smiled upon their voyages that we learn most concerning these merchant adventurers, who, after bringing in their prizes, too often quarrelled among themselves and doubtless handed over to the lawyers a fair proportion of the spoils taken from the foreigner. The archives of the seventeenth century Courts of Exchequer and Chancery take us behind the scenes and furnish some instructive details at which we will briefly glance.

A Chancery suit in 1632-3 between Antiochesten Phelps (who surely hailed from the Tarrant valley) and John Gardner, merchant and controller of Customs at Poole and Weymouth, tells us that the *Content* of the latter port had captured the *St. Jago* of Lisbon, laden with sugar, Brazil tobacco, &c. The ship and cargo were said to be worth £7,000 beyond the Lord Admiral's share, and the cost of fitting out the *Content* had been £360: a very profitable result, but one of the owners laments that another of their vessels, the *Sarah*, had returned empty and lost her voyage. It was apparently the custom to sell "£5 ventures" to anyone with a liking for lotteries, and several Dorchester men had purchased shares in the *Content*. Another suit relates how the *Gift of God*, of Weymouth (Edward Cuttance, master) had captured in 1627, when on a voyage to the Isle of Maye, a Portuguese carvel valued at nearly £7,900, and a small French vessel worth £200. A well-known Weymouth mariner, Peter Sallanova, who owned and commanded more than one privateer, tells the Court that his ship, the *Truelove*, had brought in the French *Dolphin*, laden with Bank's fish and train oil, and the same individual is, on another occasion, officially commended for the capture of a cargo of French wines, which were, no doubt, an acceptable prize at a time when communications with that country were cut off.

The owners of the Poole and Lyme "men of war" were presumably less litigious than their brethren of the central

port, and therefore, leave us, for the most part, in the dark as regards any personal details of their proceedings. One solitary instance occurs of a trader in an inland town being also the owner of a privateer—namely, in the case of John Hill, of Dorchester, who fitted out the *Pilgrim*, of 200 tons, and her pinnace, the *Friendship*, in 1627, with a view to pirate hunting as well as reprisals on the Spaniards.

It is to be feared that the confusion resulting from the coming and going of these vessels led to irregularities of another kind, for one reads on a Memoranda roll of Mich. Term 10 Chas. I. that Thos. Gyear and Thos. Waltham, of Melcombe, and John Blachford, of the county town (each of whom was concerned in the subject of this paper), were heavily fined for confederating together to avoid payment of customs at Poole and Weymouth, several of the implicated ships having previously received Admiralty commissions. The penalties then inflicted were not, however, paid for many a long day, if ever, as the Sheriff in 1651 mentions these fines (one of £3,000 and two of £2,000) as being still outstanding, and certifies “no property in bailiwick.” Evasions may be suspected.

After the treaty of peace with Spain in 1630 the rush for Letters of Marque abated, and comparatively few were issued in the later years of Charles's reign. The Civil War afforded the Weymouth firebrands an opportunity of doing some fighting ashore, one ex-privateersman, Gabriel Cornish, being master of ordnance during the siege, and another, Gregory Babbidge, serving as ensign in the same operations; about the same time George Scutt, ex-Mayor of Poole, and owner of privateers, was appointed governor and commander of the troops in that town.

To touch for a moment upon Lyme Regis, the *Bonadventure* was sent to sea by Wm. Kirridge, who had been chief magistrate of the borough in 1621, his ship being licenced to “lay aboard four mynyons and five falckons” as armament. Subsequently Richard Alford, another ex-Mayor of the Western port, took out Letters of Reprisal, and achieved

considerable success with the *Swan* and other vessels until the Commonwealth Government withdrew all these commissions on the grounds that good sailors were wanted for the Navy and that too many abuses were prevalent.

Weymouth is again mentioned in 1692, when the *William and Mary* galley (150 tons, 45 men, commanded by Wm. Hollman) had effected several captures in the Channel after her Letters had been revoked, but, by the grace of the authorities, her owners were permitted to retain the profits of her exploits. A stirring incident in the year 1694 illustrates the insecurity of the unfortified roadsteads. While two local privateers were lying at Weymouth, two similar French craft sailed in and cut out a ketch laden with Purbeck stone. Although the British commanders were ashore at the time, their men proved equal to the emergency, and retaliated on the daring Frenchmen with such effect that the intruders lost their own ships in addition to their prize.

The period which covers the long wars of the eighteenth century saw very many additions to the number of Dorset Letters of Marque; but the mass of the Admiralty Court documents, chiefly without indexes, renders a complete list impracticable, even if such were desirable. A few examples chosen more or less at haphazard must therefore suffice. The Dorchester Museum possesses a newspaper extract (unnamed but marked 1755) which states that Poole merchants were then fitting out the *Fox* privateer with 8 guns, 14 swivels, and a crew of seventy, under Capt. Thos. Francklin, but the corresponding Letters are not mentioned in the records, unless an entry under 1778 refers to the same ship. The formalities which obtained under the Stuart monarchs had now become more stringent, every commander being ordered to keep an "exact journal" of events; he was also required to describe minutely the vessel and its equipment, presumably with the object of placing beyond question the identity of the privateer, and a pinnace was no longer included in the commission. A specimen of one of these "Declarations" is perhaps of sufficient interest to be quoted here.

On 29th December, 1778, it was declared that

J. R. Wood's ship is called the *Friend* of the port of Poole, is of the burthen of 250 tons, is square sterned, has no figure head, has three masts; that the said J. R. Wood goeth commander of her, that she is mounted with twelve carriage guns carrying shot of 6, 4, and 3 pounds weight, and no swivel guns; navigated with twenty men, has twenty stands of small arms, twelve cutlasses, three barrels of powder, twenty rounds of great shot and about two cwt. of small shot; that the said ship is victualled for six months, has two suits of sails, five anchors, three cables, and about one ton weight of spare cordage; that Richard Wood goes mate or lieutenant, Robert Ash gunner, Thomas Glover boatswain, John Clarke carpenter, James Hibbs cook, and Henry Bailey Green surgeon of the said ship, and that Peter Jolliffe\* junr., of Poole, merchant, is the sole owner and setter out. This commission was against the King of France.

Another Poole ship, the *Resolution*, commanded by Christopher Fry and owned by John Bundock and Company, received in 1778 Letters of Marque directed against "the American colonies now in rebellion and all vessels of our subjects trading to or with the said colonies," words which call to mind England's great mistake.

Weymouth, also, watched the departure of many ships flying the privateer's flag during the reign of George III., and occasionally a newspaper advertisement provides a welcome addition to the dry official records. The *Western Flying Post* of 21st December, 1778, announces that the *Trimmer*, of Weymouth, was about to proceed on a three months' cruise against the enemies of Britain, that all gentlemen, seamen, and able-bodied landmen willing to serve on board would receive advance money before proceeding to sea—viz., four guineas to a seaman, two to a landman, one to a boy; if the landmen had served in the militia, and were expert in their exercise, then three guineas. This vessel of 120 tons was

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\* An instance of heredity in tastes may be inferred from the fact that an earlier Peter Jolliffe, of Poole, had distinguished himself in 1694 by annexing two foreign privateers on the adjoining coast, for which feat he was awarded a gold medal by Royalty, and his praises were sung in a ballad quoted in S. & D. N. & Q. III. 173.

owned by John Collins and commanded by Benj. Hughes, her crew numbered sixty, and she was armed with ten carriage guns and 20 howitzers to be used against the French and the Spaniards. The same news sheet gives notice in March, 1779, that the *Shaftesbury*, Capt. John Horsford, would shortly distribute to the officers and men their shares in captured prizes. The ship was 180 tons burden, and carried a crew of seventy, with 24 guns. The owners were the commander, a Weymouth merchant, and John Le Mesurier, of Alderney. It is to be feared that, on the whole, the distributions fell short of the expectations.

To find the name of a Government Department among those asking for Letters of Marque is both unusual and surprising; an instance occurs in the year 1793, when the Commissioners of Customs converted into a privateer the *Greyhound*, of Weymouth (200 tons, Capt. S. Watson), the warrant being directed against France. Their object in taking this step is not, of course, disclosed, but they may have wished to extend beyond territorial waters their right to capture contraband, on account of the general prevalence of smuggling along our South coast. The Commissioners also obtained licences for the same cutter in 1795 and '96 for operations against the United Provinces and Spain respectively. The permits issued at this period to Lyme Regis vessels must have been very few in number, as I have met with only two applications in the years that have been examined. Perhaps we may say of the port that it was happy in thus having no history during the wars with Spain, Holland, and France. The *Dove*, lugger, of Lyme (Capt. Thos. Jervis), a small craft of 39 tons, carrying 4 guns and a crew of 25, was fitted out there in 1793, the year following the partial destruction of the Cobb by storms. The other example was the *Lyme*, of 60 tons, in 1757.

The neighbouring haven of Bridport is mentioned only once in this connection. The *Sherborne Journal* of 27th May, 1779, contains an intimation that the cutter *Resolution* was then being made ready for sea at Bridport, and invites



seamen and able-bodied landmen who had a mind to make their fortunes to apply there to the captain, Hilary Gosselin.

This cutter's "declaration" shews that her crew was one hundred, and her armament 20 carriage guns, 10 cohorns, and 12 swivels. If the tonnage of 280 is correctly stated, the *Resolution* must have had some difficulty at that date in entering or leaving the little harbour now known as West Bay.

Swanage in the eighteenth century was only a fishing village, but the spirit of adventure was not wanting, as may be learned from a tablet in the church to the memory of three parishioners named Edmonds, who were closely associated with privateering (Hutchins, 3rd ed., I. 679). It appears that Joseph Edmonds had commanded in 1757 the *Defyance*, of London, and that he had fitted out in 1793 the *New Albion*, of Southampton, his son John being a partner in the undertaking and captain of the ship. Samuel Edmonds was surgeon on board the *New Albion*, and another son is said to have commanded the *Dorset*, which was presumably also a privateer, but is as yet untraced. There are certain discrepancies between the documents of the Admiralty Court and the inscription on the memorial; no doubt the latter was carved some years after the events narrated.

Having now reached comparatively modern times, I will bring these notes to a close, notwithstanding that Letters of Marque were granted, at lengthening intervals, until 1856, when the treaty of Paris finally put an end to the practice as between European nations, the United States being a dissentient. It is conceivable, however, that if the day of a naval Armageddon should come upon us, the best of our mercantile marine will once more be armed as commerce destroyers, though a less ugly term than "privateer" may be used to describe them.



# WARRANTS FOR LETTERS OF MARQUE AND REPRISAL.

ALL OF WEYMOUTH AND MELCOMBE EXCEPT WHEN OTHERWISE STATED.

<i>Owner.</i>	<i>Name and Tonnage of Ship.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>
1625. John Lockier, merchant	Dragone, 80 and her pinnace Sealove	Gyles Bonde and Francis Saunders John Reeves
1626. Edward Roy and others	Truelove, 100 and pinnace Hopewell, 25	E. R. Clement White
Peter Salleneuve	St. Nicholas, 90	Owner
John Freake, Esq.	Leopard, 240 and pinnace Margaret, 60	Nich. Strangways and Nich. Audney
Thos. Powlett and others	Dragon, 80 and pinnace Hopewell, 30	John Lockyer Robt. Roy
John Bryard and Thos. Hill	Garland, of Poole, 160	John Randoll
Henry Michell	Abigail, 120	John Michell and W. Collins
George Skutt	Desire, of Poole, 80	John Fox
Thos. Roberts	Concord, of Poole, 80	Wm. Bryant
Wm. Wilson	Bonadventure, of Lyme, 70	Owner and Jas. Easman
John Lockyer	Phoenix, 40 and pinnace Hopewell, 36	Owner Thos. Prowse
Robert Bassett	Gift, 140 and pinnace Phoenix, 40	Owner
Rich. Champion	Shuttle, 30	Owner
Henry Maior	Flower, 40	H.M. and Portland Bunne
Stephen Dennis	Palacra, 80, 6 guns	
1627. Edward Roy	Dragon, 80, and 2 pinnaces Phoenix, 40, Speedwell, 25	
John Hill	Sarah and Katherine, 50, and pinnace Damosell, 20	Thos. Chaplin

<i>Owner.</i>	<i>Name and Tonnage of Ship.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>
John Scoble	Desire, of Poole, 100 and pinnace Flying Hart, 50	
Barnard Drake and others.	Bonadventure, of Lyme, 80	Owner
Rich. Wright and others	Shuttle, 30	Gabriel Cornish
Henry Cuttance	Gift of God, 120	Edward Cuttance
Nicholas Audney, of Weymouth and others	and pinnace Flower, 40	Portland Bunne
Jonas Dennys	Leopard, of Poole, 240, and pinnace Scout, 60	Owner
	Judith, 70, and pinnace, unnamed, 30	Wm. Lovell
		Owner
John Fox	Garland, of Poole, 60	Owner
Henry Waltham and David Geyer.	Sarah Bonadventure, 100 and pinnace, Mermaid, 40	
Wm. Waltham and Thos. Geyer	Elizabeth, 100 and pinnace Robert and John, 40	Wm. Collins
Stephen Pettifz and others	Stephen, 100 and pinnace Hopewell, 60	Owner
Henry Russell	Content, 40	Henry Hinckley
Rich. Davy	Bonadventure, of Lyme, 100	Owner
	and pinnace Desire, 30	Jas. Davy
Robert Maior and others	Hope, 70	R. Maior
1628		
Peter Salleneuve	Truelove, 80	Owner
Wm. Simpson	Eleanor, 45	Owner
Arnold Basset	Hopewell, 60	Owner
Wm. Bryard and others	Garland, of Poole, 160 and pinnace Mermaid, 60	W. Bryard
Rich. Alford and John Hallett	Swan, of Lyme, 90	Abel Thomas
John Davis and others	Sarak Bonadventure, 100 and pinnace Mermaid	Owner and John Randoll
Jonathan Downes	Marygold, 60	Owner
Gabriel Cornish and others	Margaret, 100	G. Cornish

<i>Owner.</i>	<i>Name and Tonnage of Ship.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>
Stephen Reynolds and others	Content, 60	S. Reynolds
John Moncke and others	Pilgrim, 140	J. M.
Rich. Champion and others.	Elizabeth, 50	R. C.
Robt. White and others	Great Katherine, 100	R. W.
John Haynes and others	Flying Drake, 40	J. H.
Rich. Russell	Content, 60	Henry Hinckley
John Lockyer	Dragon, 140 and pinnace Phoenix. 40	J. L.
1629		
Theophilus Man	Mermaid, of Poole, 60	Henry Frost.
Thos. Chaplin and others	Friendship, 60	T. C.
Robt. Guyer and others	Sarah, 100	R. G.
Robt. Salter	Margaret, 100	R. S.
Henry Cuttance	Marygold, 140 and pinnace, unnamed	Edward Cuttance.
Henry Mayor and others	Hopewell 60	H. M.
John Hallett and Abel Thomas	Swan, of Lyme, 80 and pinnace Goose, 40	A. T.
John Sacheverell	Judith, 80	J. S.
Edward Linze and others	Dolphin, 100 and pinnace Desire 50	Gabriel Cornish Robt. Damen
John Blachford and David Guyer	Pilgrim, 160 and pinnace Mary, 50	Capt. Holmes
David Guyer and others	King David, 60 and pinnace Corymuchi, 30	John Lockier N. Corney
Jonas Dennys and others	Thomasine, 120 and pinnace, 40	J. D.
Raufe Horsey and others	Marigold	R. H.
1630		
Thos. Waltham and others	Ellinor 60 and pinnace Joane, 30	R. Champion

<i>Owner.</i>	<i>Name and Tonnage of Ship.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>
John Reynolds and others	Christian, 40 and pinnace Greyhound, 35	J. R.
John Nutt and others	Swan, of Lyme, 80 and Goose, of Lyme, 40, pinnace	J. N.
Rich. Wright and Gregory Bavidge	Willing Mind, 80 and pinnace Shuttle, 50	R. White
John Gardner and others	Harry and John, 140 and Swiftsure, 40	Henry Russell
Henry Waltham	Long John, 140, and Phoenix, 50	Francis Saunders Alex. Clattery
Jonathan Downes	Niger, 90	
Joseph Lysley and others	Abigail, 100	J. L.
1633		
Thos. Gaynour ( <i>sic</i> )	Truelove	T. G. and Walter Davis master ; Benj. Denny Lieut.

### WARRANTS FOR LETTERS OF MARQUE TO TAKE PIRATES ON THE COASTS OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

<i>Owner.</i>	<i>Name and Tonnage of Ship.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>
1626.		
John Lockier, merchant	Phoenix, 40 and Hopewell, 36	J. L. T. Prowse
Robt. Bassett	Guift, 140, and Phoenix, 40	R. B.
John Freake, Esq.	Leopard, 240 and Margaret, 60	Nich. Strangways, capt. Nich. Audney, master
1627.		
John Hill, of Dorchester, merchant	Pilgrim, of Weymouth, 200 and Friendship, 40	

These commissions to take pirates reserve a full fifth part for the Admiralty, except the last-mentioned vessel, when one-third is reserved.

<i>Owner.</i>	<i>Name and Tonnage of Ship.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>
1696. P. Taylor and C. Langrish and others	Melcombe, sloop, 30	John Mansell
1757. James Stephens & Co. R. F. Coad and Capt. Mansell John Tivitoe Humphry Sturt John Lidderdale and others	Hawke, of Poole, 200  Lyme, of Lyme, 60 Mountserratt Planter, 200 Dorset, 400, of Poole Defyance, of London, 500	James Hunt  Abr. Bailleul The Owner Francis Pinney Joseph Edmonds, of of Swanage
1778. S. Walker & Co. J. Bundock & Co. Isaac and Benj. Lester  J. Bundock & Co.	Fox, of Poole, 80 Resolution, of Poole, 30 Earl of Sandwich, of Poole, 300 Active, of Poole, 120	Capt. Blanchard Christopher Fry  Rich. Sainthill John Broom
1779. T. Mackrell and others Wm. Thompson J. Bundock & Co. " " J. Callen and T. Minter Gabriel Stewart and others John Horsford and others	Eagle, of Poole, 130 Laurel, of Poole, 130 Antelope, of Poole, 110 Enterprise, of Poole, 130 Ranger, of Poole, 200  Weymouth, 150 Tamer, 270	Arch. McMaste R. Buck F. Messeroy W. Collingwood, jun. J. Streeter  Wm. Talbot R. Wilkinson
1780. John Horsford and others  Gab. and Fr. Steward  G. Steward, T. Bagg, and others L. Lemesurier J. Bundock & Co.	Portland, 70, against Dutch Achilles, 400, against Dutch Active, 50, against Dutch Kite, 140, against Dutch British Lyon, of Poole, 270, against Dutch	John Way  J. Williams  J. Harris M. Langrish  Peter Baird

<i>Owner.</i>	<i>Name and Tonnage of Ship.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>
<b>1793.</b>		
John Head and others	Dove, lugger, of Lyme, 39	Thos. Jervis.
Benj. Lester	Paulina, cutter, of Poole, 30	Thos. Lander
Francis Steward	Weymouth, lugger, 30	John Sturmev
* Samuel Weston and others	Resolution, 76	John Manger
" " "	Mary, cutter, 32	Wm. Reed
Elias Durell and others	Vulture, of Jersey, 42	John Filleul
Thos. Tizard and others	Lottery, cutter, 20	Thos. Hickman
John Horsford and others	Achilles, 195	Rich. Wilkinson
" " "	Brilliant, 46	Sam. Smetham
Commissioners of Customs	Greyhound, 200	S. Watson
Joseph and John Edmonds, of Swanage	New Albion, of Southampton, 250.	John E., of Swanage.
<b>1794.</b>		
James Scott, † Sam.	Spitfire, 288	Thos. Dymond
Margrie, ‡ Thos. Richardson, and the Captain		
<b>1796.</b>		
Jas. Scott and others	Surprise, 51, against Spain and the Dutch	Wm. Evans
<b>1803.</b>		
Robt. Williams	Dorsetshire, of London, 1268, 32 guns	R. H. Brown



\* Major in Weymouth Volunteers, 1799.

† Ensign in Weymouth Volunteers, 1799.

‡ Ensign in Weymouth and Wyke Volunteers, 1799.





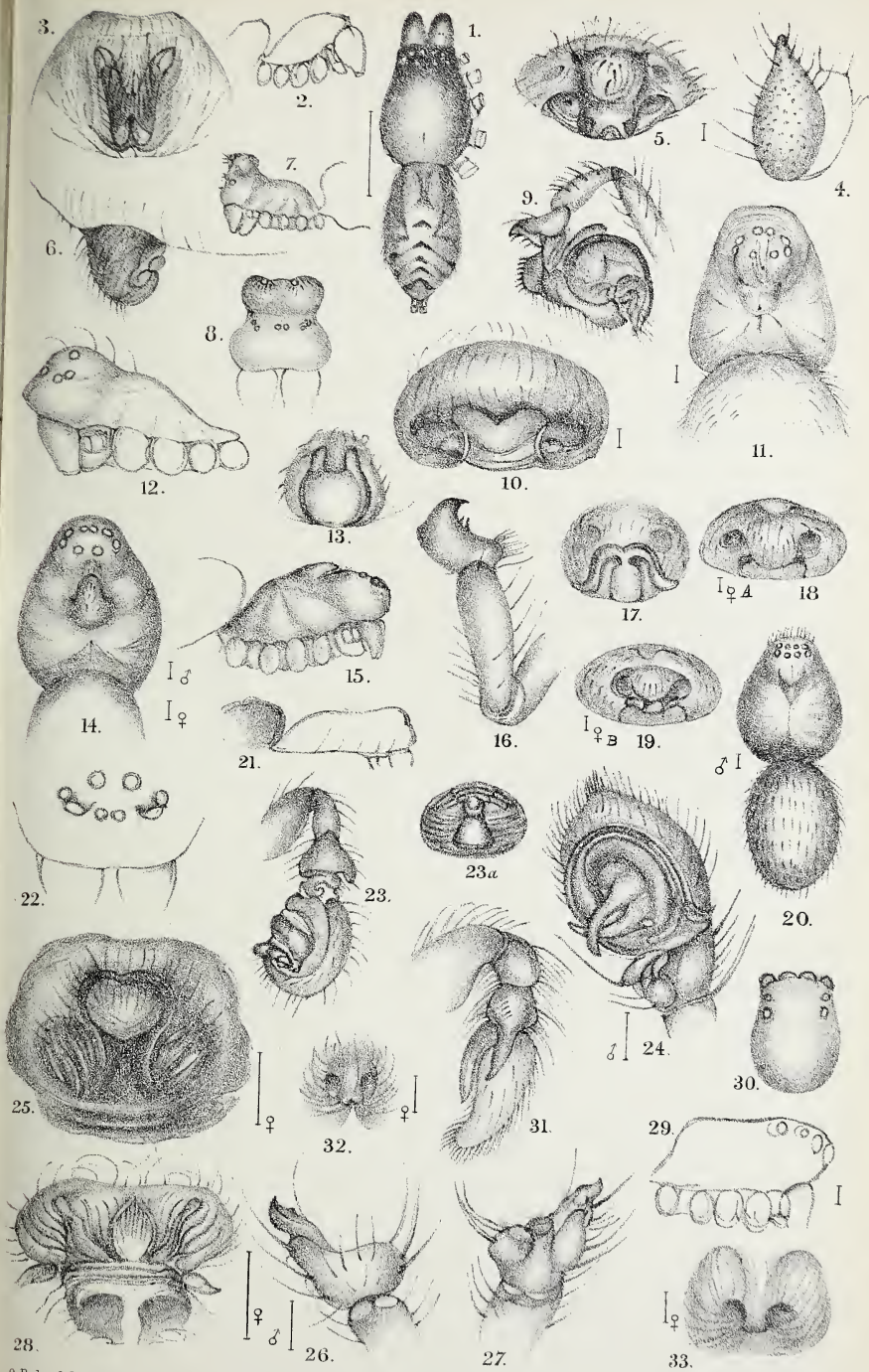
# DESCRIPTION OF PLATE A.

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- FIG. 1. *Clubiona facilis*, sp. n. 2. Profile of cephalothorax. 3. Genital aperture.
- „ 4. *Microneta passiva*, Cambr. Palpus, female. 5. Genital aperture. 6. Ditto in profile.
- „ 7. *Hypselistes florens*, Cambr. Profile of cephalothorax, male. 8. Caput and eyes from in front. 9. Palpus, male, outer side. 10. Genital aperture, female.
- „ 11. *Araeoncus æquus*, sp. n. Female. 12. Profile of cephalothorax. 13. Genital aperture.
- „ 14. *Notioscopus sarcinatus*, Cambr. Male. 15. Profile of cephalothorax. 16. Radial and cubital joints of palpus. 17. Genital aperture, female.
- „ 18. ? *Troxochrus scabriculus*, Westr. Female, genital aperture.
- „ 19. ? *Troxochrus cirrifrons*, Cambr. Female, genital aperture.
- „ 20. *Eboria caliginosa*, Falconer. Male. 21. Profile. 22. Cephalothorax and eyes from in front. 23. Palpus, male, outer side. 23a. Genital aperture, female.
- „ 24. *Xysticus luctator*, Thor. Palpus, male, showing palpal organs. 25. Genital aperture, female.
- „ 26. *Xysticus robustus*, Hahn. 26 and 27. Palpus, male, shewing form of radial joint above and below. 28. Genital aperture, female.
- „ 29. *Attus caricis*, Westr. Male, profile. 30. Cephalothorax from above. 31. Palpus on outer side. 32. Genital aperture, female. 33. Ditto from another example.

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N.B.—The short lines in the Plate indicate the natural lengths of the various spiders.



O. Pickard-Cambridge, del.

M<sup>rs</sup> Farlane & Erskine, Lith. Edin<sup>g</sup>





## On British Arachnida,

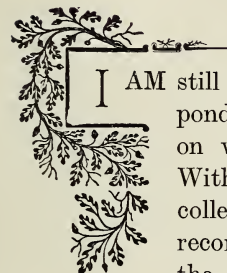
NOTED AND OBSERVED IN 1909.

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By Rev. O. PICKARD-CAMBRIDGE, M.A., F.R.S., &c.

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### PLATE A.



I AM still indebted to the kind assistance of correspondents for the greater part of the materials on which the following remarks are based. With their help, the result of the past year's collecting and observations enables me to record the addition of several species to the British and Irish List. Of these, two are, it is believed, new to science, and three others are recorded as new to the British list. These last three are specially remarkable, having been described and figured by myself many years ago; two in 1872 (*Notioscopus sarcinatus*, Cambr., and *Cornicularia Kochii*, Cambr.) from Bavaria and Warsaw, and the third (*Hypselistes florens* Cambr.), from Boston in North America in 1875; since those dates (excepting a male of *C. Kochii* from Holland in 1889) no record of their occurrence has been made until their discovery now in England. Further reference will be made to these in the subjoined list. I must here mention a fine *Clubiona* received from Mr. W. P. Winter, of Shipley, Yorkshire. This appears to be undoubtedly new to science (on this spider see postea, p. 68). Besides the above, I have received several very rare species from the New Forest; two



were sent to me by Mr. Horace Donisthorpe, and one by Dr. A. R. Jackson; the two former were first recorded as British from a single specimen of each, found in the Bloxworth district, Dorset, in 1854, and the other from several immature examples found by myself in the New Forest in 1858. Since these dates neither of them has been met with until this past year. Further notes on these also are added (*postea*); their names are *Xysticus robustus*, Hahn, and *Xysticus luctator*. L. Koch (two of the largest and handsomest of the European Thomisids or crab-spiders), the third being *Oxyopes heterophthalmus*, Latr., whose nearest allies are continental and exotic.

I have now again to thank my many friends and correspondents for their kind assistance during the past year; especially among them Dr. A. Randell Jackson, M.B., D.Sc., of Chester; Mr. Horace Donisthorpe, 58, Kensington Mansions, London; Mr. William Falconer, Slaithwaite, near Huddersfield; Mr. Denis Packe-Beresford, Bagenalstown, Ireland; the Rev. J. E. Hull, Whitfield, Northumberland; Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield, Hastings, Sussex; Mr. F. P. Smith, 15, Cloudesley Place, Islington; Mr. W. P. Winter, Shipley, Yorkshire; Mr. H. H. Harrison, Birtley, Durham; Mr. G. A. Dunlop, Stockton Heath, Cheshire; Mr. Wallis Kew, 12, Werndon Road, Wandsworth; Mr. F. T. Palmer, Cheltenham; Mr. J. H. Keys, Plymouth; Rev. J. H. Bloom, Whitechurch, Stratford-on-Avon; Mr. Eustace R. Bankes, Norden, Corfe Castle; Dr. Sharp, Brockenhurst; Dr. Grierson, Great Grimsby; Mr. Cecil Warburton, Cambridge; Mr. A. G. Burton, Goole; and Dr. G. H. Oliver, M.D., Bradford, Yorkshire.

If further information is required on any of the Arachnids in the following list, I would refer to "Spiders of Dorset," 1879-81; and to Papers published since, in its annual Proceedings, 1882-1909, by the Dorset Field Club; as well as to the "List of British and Irish Spiders" (Sime and Co.: 1900). Also, for information upon some of the less numerous groups of British Arachnids, I would refer to "Monographs



on the *British Phalangidea* or Harvest Men, 1890 " (Vol. XI.), and on the British *Chernetidea*, or False Scorpions, 1892 (Vol. XIII.), published in the Dorset Field Club Proceedings.

I should mention here that Papers have also been published during the past year on some British Spiders, by the Rev. J. E. Hull (Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. of Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, n.s., Vol. III., Part 2, and "Naturalist," 1909, August 1), and by Mr. W. Falconer, "Naturalist," August and September, 1909, and February, 1910. Mr. T. Stainforth, of the Municipal Museum, Hull, also gives a List of East Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Arachnids in Trans. of the Hull Scientific and Field Naturalists' Club.

I must not conclude these few introductory remarks without thanking the Dorset Field Club most heartily for having so long continued to publish my annual remarks and notes on a subject not congenial (to say the least of it) to the greater part of our members. I wish I could report that my efforts had prevailed upon some, or some one of them at least, to take up this special branch of natural history investigation; but the coming student of arachnology among our Dorset Natural History and Field Club members is still coming, though when he or she may arrive who shall say?

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## LIST OF NEW AND RARE BRITISH ARACHNIDA.

### Order ARANEIDEA.

#### Fam. THERAPHOSIDÆ.

##### *Atypus affinis*, Eichwald.

In the Proc. Dors. N.H. and A.F. Club XXIX. (1908), p. 164, it is stated that *A. affinis*, Eich., is the only British representative of the family. This was an oversight, as another species was found by the late Mr. Richard Beck at St. Leonard's, near Hastings. (*Atypus Beckii*, Cambr.), *vide* Spid. Dorset, Vol. I., p. 4.

**Fam. DYSDERIDÆ.*****Ischnothyreus velox*, Jackson.**

This curious little spider has again been sent to me during the past year from the Royal Gardens, Kew, where, in the warmer buildings, it appears to be quite domiciled, though no doubt originally introduced from some exotic region.

**Fam. DRASSIDÆ.*****Drassus pubescens*, Thor.**

An adult male sent to me in July, 1908, from Whitchurch, near Stratford-on-Avon, by the Rev. J. A. Bloom.

***Prosthesima pedestris*, C. L. Koch.**

A full grown example of this spider was sent to me from the New Forest, Hampshire, by Mr. H. Donisthorpe ; it was in the jaws of another spider.

***Xysticus robustus*, Hahn.**

Noted further on p. 62 postea.

***Clubiona neglecta*, Cambr.**

An adult male sent to me from Worcestershire by the Rev. J. H. Bloom. It is a rare spider, though widely distributed.

***Clubiona facilis*, sp.n.**

Nearly allied to *Clubiona holosericea*, De Geer. A single example of the adult female sent to me from Shipley, Yorkshire, by Mr. R. P. Winter (see further note and description p. 68 postea).

**Fam. AGELENIDÆ.*****Cryphoea incisa*, Cambr.**

Two adult females, found in nests of *Formica fusca*, were kindly sent to me in May, 1909, by Mr. H. Donisthorpe, from Bradgate Park, Leicestershire.

***Cicurina cinerea*, Panz.**

Adult and immature females found in nests of *Lasius fuliginosus*, Darenth Wood, in September, 1909, were sent to me by Mr. H. Donisthorpe.

***Tegenaria Derhamii*, Scop.**

Dr. Oliver, of Bradford, Yorkshire, tells me that a female of this species (just dead) had lived under his care seven years in confinement; and another example five years. These are supposed by Dr. Oliver to have furnished instances of "Parthenogenesis," but the evidence did not appear to me conclusive on the point.

**Fam. THERIDIIDÆ.*****Theridion aulicum*, Luc.**

Adults of both sexes of this rare and local spider were found in June, 1909, at the Sandbanks, near Poole, and also Morden Park, Bloxworth, by Dr. A. R. Jackson, and my son, Alfred E. Ll. Pickard-Cambridge.

***Leptyphantes patens*, Cambr.**

The spider recorded (Proc. Dors. F. Club, Vol. XXVIII., p. 140, pl. A, figs. 20, 21), as the female of this species appears to be most probably that of *Leptyphantes pallidus*, Cambr.

**Porrhomma microphthalmum**, Cambr.

The spider recorded (Proc. Dors. F. Club, Vol. XXIX., p. 172) as *Porrhomma Meadii*, F.O.P., C., being synonymous with *P. microphthalmum*, should have been entered under the latter name.

**Hilaira excisa**, Cambr.

Numerous examples of both sexes received from the Rev. J. E. Hull from Northumberland in 1909.

**Hilaira uncata**, Cambr.

An adult female from Mr. D. R. P.-Beresford, by whom it was found near the Ulster Canal, Ireland.

**? Oreoneta Tmeticus**, Cambr.) **fortunata**, Cambr.

*Porrhomma inerrans*, Cambr., Proc. Dors. N.H. and A. Field Club, Vol. VI., p. 11 (male, not female).

An adult male from Rev. R. J. Pickard-Cambridge, found on iron railings at Warmwell, May 29, 1909. Also two males in a similar situation, at Bloxworth Rectory, taken by Dr. A. R. Jackson and myself early in June, 1909. From a recent examination and comparison of types, it appears that the males of *Porrhomma inerrans*, Cambr., and *O. fortunata*, Cambr., are undoubtedly identical though the females are distinct.

**Mengea**, F. O. P.-C. (**Tmeticus**, Cambr.), **Warburtonii**, Cambr.

*Tmeticus probabilis*, Cambr., Proc. Dors. F. Club, XXIX., p. 195.

*T. probabilis*, Cambr., is certainly a small variety of the female of *M. Warburtonii* with no sign of the usual dark chevrons on the upper side of the abdomen. An adult female of *M. Warburtonii* was received from Dr. A. R. Jackson, by whom it was found near Stamford Bridge, Cheshire, in September, 1909.

**Microneta innotabilis**, Cambr.

An adult male found by A. E. Ll. Pickard-Cambridge among herbage in Berewood, near Bloxworth, July 2nd, 1909.

**Microneta passiva**, Cambr.

Adults of both sexes were received from the Rev. J. E. Hull, Northumberland, and from Mr. W. Falconer, near Huddersfield. The spider at first thought to be the female of *M. passiva* turns out to be that of *M. saxatilis*, Bl. For a figure of what is now considered to be *M. passiva* (female) see postea pl. A., figs. 4, 5, 6, cf. also Proc. Dors. N.H. and A.F. Club XXX., p. 105.

**Sintula fausta**, Cambr.

Both sexes, adult, were received from Northumberland from the Rev. J. E. Hull in 1909.

**Typhocrestus digitatus**, Cambr.

An adult female received from Mr. H. Donisthorpe, by whom it was found in an ant's nest (*Formica fusca*), Bradgate Park, Leicestershire, May, 1909.

**Diplocephalus picinus**, Bl.

*Gongylidium morum*, Cambr., Ann. Scottish Nat. Hist., 1894, p. 21, and List of Brit. and Irish Spiders, p. 38.

Comparison of the type of *G. morum* with typical examples of *D. picinus*, Bl. (female), shows that these two spiders are identical.

Genus HYPSELISTES, Sim., Hist. des Araignées, 2nd Ed., tom. I., p. 671.

This genus was formed by M. Simon for a North American (New England) spider—*Erigone* (Entelecara) *florens* Camb. (Proc. Zool. Soc., London, 1875, p. 403,

pl. xlvii., Fig. 10). Its chief generic distinction seems to be based upon the armature of the underside of the tibiae and metatarsi of the legs, which appears to be a good distinction, though it is chiefly marked in the female, and in that sex most strongly on the anterior legs, while in the male it is not so remarkable.\*

### **Hypselistes florens, Cambr.**

*Erigone florens*, Cambr., Proc. Zool. Soc., Lond., 1875, p. 403, Pl. xlvii, Fig. 10. Both sexes adult were received lately from the Rev. J. E. Hull; these were found by Mr. Hull's nephew (Mr. H. H. Harrison) in swampy places on the ancient jet workings on Eston Moor, Cleveland, Yorkshire. The occurrence of this fine and very distinct species in Yorkshire is of great interest, as it has not been recorded in any locality until now since its record in 1875 in North America, where it appears to be an abundant form. It is new to the British fauna.

### **Hypselistes Jacksonii, Cambr.**

*Entelecara Jacksonii*, Cambr., Proc. Dors. N.H. and A.F. Club, XXIII., 1902, pp. 24 and 23, Fig. 6.

Taking the armature of the legs as generically distinctive, *Entelecara Jacksonii*, Cambr., should, I think, be removed to the genus *Hypselistes*, Sim. Others of the genus *Entelecara* show a somewhat analogous, though not similar, armature, while in one or two species the legs are normal. Further consideration seems necessary to determine the position of the different species of this now somewhat heterogeneous group.

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\* M. Simon says, i.e., simply "tibiis anticis subtus satis longis biseriatis instructi." All the legs, however, metatarsi as well as tibiae, are more or less well-marked in respect of this armature. In *Arachnides de France* V., p. 617, M. Simon includes *E. florens*, Cambr., in the genus *Nematognus*, Sim., with the type of which, however, *E. florens*, Cambr., has only a somewhat similar general form of the male palpus, but no other good affinity.



**Thyreosthenius biovatus**, Cambr.

Adults of both sexes of this curious little ant's-nest-loving spider were received from Mr. H. Donisthorpe, by whom they were found at Nethy Bridge, Inverness-shire in May, 1909.

**Araeoncus aequus**, sp.n.

An adult female found with ants (*Tetramorum cæspitum*) at Ram's Head, Cornwall, and sent to me by Mr. H. Donisthorpe in April, 1909. This spider seems to be nearly allied to *Araeoncus longiusculus*, Cambr., received many years ago from Corsica; possibly it may be the female (with which I am not acquainted) of that species! It appears at any rate to be new to Britain. For fuller description see postea (p. 69).

**Lophocarenum stramineum**, Menge.

Adult females were lately received from Mr. D. R. P. Beresford, Fenagh, Ireland. Males of this spider were sent to me from Ireland by Mr. Beresford in 1906. (See Proc. Dors. N.H. and A.F. Club, XXVIII, p. 131.)

Gen. NOTIOSCOPUS, Sim. (Arachnides de France V., 2nd part, 1884, p. 648).

This genus was founded by M. Simon in 1884 (l.c. supra) on a single species first described by myself in 1872 from a spider received from Nuremberg in Bavaria from Dr. Ludwig Koch.

**Notioscopus sarcinatus**, Cambr.

*Erigone sarcinata*, Cambr., Proc. Zool. Soc., Lond., 1872, p. 757, Pl. lxx., Fig. 13. Both sexes were found among sphagnum in ditches on Eston Moor, Cleveland,

North Yorkshire, by Mr. H. H. Harrison, in June, 1909, and were sent to me by the Rev. J. E. Hull. It is a very distinct species, and has not been recorded, so far as I am aware, excepting in France, since its description in 1872 from Bavaria. Its occurrence, therefore, is of much interest. This is its first record as a British species; the genus being also new to Britain.

***Styloctetor penicillatus*, Westr.**

Adult females found in 1909 were received from Ireland from Mr. D. R. P. Beresford.

***Troxochrus cirrifrons*, Cambr.**

An adult male was received from the Rev. J. H. Bloom from Whitchurch (Stratford-on-Avon) in July, 1909, also a male, and (taken with it) two females, from the East Coast of Yorkshire, from Mr. W. Falconer; presumably these last may be the females of *T. cirrifrons*. This species is very nearly allied to *T. scabriculus*, Westr., and indeed is considered by Mons. Simon to be identical with that species, and to differ only in the male sex, which it does remarkably. I can, however find in the females received from Mr. Falconer a difference from some others which I believe to be the typical form of *T. scabriculus*, Westr. These others were taken by myself at Basingfield, Hampshire, some years ago, in company with an equal number of males, and they correspond exactly with the female figured as that of *T. scabriculus*, Westr. by Bösenberg. (Die Spinner Deutschlands, p. 203, Pl. xviii., Fig. 284.) M. Simon relies chiefly, for the identity of *scabriculus* and *cirrifrons*, on the two forms being always found together (*i.e.*, at the same time and place); but this I have by no means myself proved to be the fact. Indeed, I have on several occasions received each of these male forms when no example of the other occurred. This evidence however, alone, would of course not be conclusive. (Bösenberg makes no mention

at all of the form "*cirrifrons*"!) On the whole *T. cirrifrons* still seems to me to be a distinct species from *T. scabriculus*. Not only do Mr. Falconer's females differ from what I believe to be the true female of *scabriculus* and with Bösenberg's figure, but they also agree exactly with others, in my collection, mixed up hitherto with those which I consider to be of that sex of *T. scabriculus*: indeed, out of eleven females thus mixed, I found six of the form I believe to be *scabriculus*, and five of *cirrifrons*. Of the circumstances and localities, however, of these, I have no special notes; all having hitherto been considered to be *scabriculus*. With a view towards clearing up the question whether a female distinct from the normal form of that of *scabriculus* can be reasonably allotted to *cirrifrons* I have given (pl. A. figs. 18, 19) a figure of the epigyne of each of the forms mentioned above.

### **Evansia merens, Cambr.**

A male and female were found in ants' nests, and sent to me in May, 1909, by Mr. H. Donisthorpe from Nethy Bridge, Aberdeenshire. Both sexes of this species were also found by the Rev. J. E. Hull in the nests of an ant (*Lasius niger*) and sent to me from Northumberland. An adult female of this species was also taken by Mr. Hull in a situation far removed from any nests of ants, so that it seems probable that the species is not invariably dependent for its perpetuation on obtaining the hospitality of the ants. I have myself found this to be the case in respect to another ants'-nest species, *Thyreosthenius biovatus*, Cambr.

### Gen. Nov. EBORIA, Falconer.

This new genus is based on a rather obscure spider found in 1909 by Mr. W. Falconer in West Yorkshire.

It appears to me to be nearly allied to the genus *Styloctetor*, Simon, and some others, to one of which I should myself have preferred for the present to relegate it provisionally.

**Eboria caliginosa**, Falconer, sp.n.

*Eboria caliginosa*, Falconer, "Naturalist," February, 1909, p. 83, Pl. 1, Figs. 1—10. An adult of each sex was found and sent to me for examination in August, 1909, by Mr. Falconer. The species is certainly new to Britain; whether the female example sent to me by Mr. Falconer is that sex or the male appeared to me to be doubtful. The occurrence of future specimens would make this more certain.

**Cornicularia Kochii**, Cambr.

*Erigone Kochii*, Cambr., Proc. Zool. Soc., Lond., June, 1872, p. 759, Pl. lxvi., Fig. 15.

*Cornicularia unicornis*, Cambr.-Bösenberg, Die Spinnen Deutschlands, p. 186, Pl. xvi. Fig. 256, 1903.

*Cornicularia valida*, Jackson (female), Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. of Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle, Vol. III., part 2, p. 7, Pl. x., Fig. 10.

„ *Kochii*, Cambr.-Falconer, "Naturalist," 1909, p. 295, Pl. xvii.

„ *valida*, Jackson-Cambr., Proc. Dors. N.H. and A.F. Club XXX., p. 107, figs. 11—14, 1909.

An adult male was sent to me in June, 1909, from the North Lincolnshire coast for examination by Mr. W. Falconer, and was easily recognised as identical with *Erigone Kochii*, described and figured by myself in 1872 (l.c. supra) from Warsaw and Nuremberg, but of

which the female was then unknown. Subsequently Mr. Falconer sent me another example of the male, together with the female, which last, on comparison, appeared to be without doubt identical with *Cornicularia valida*, described and figured (l.c. supra) by Dr. A. R. Jackson. The spider, therefore, was not new to Britain on the discovery of the male by Mr. Falconer, the female having been already discovered but recorded under another name. In September, 1909, I received both sexes of this very distinct and interesting spider from Dr. Jackson, by whom they had then recently been found near Stamford Bridge, Cheshire. From Mr. Falconer's paper ("Naturalist," 1909, p. 295) on this and others of the genus, it appears that examples of this species have also occurred in some other localities—Yorkshire and Lincolnshire—on the dried mud beneath or amongst coarse matted grass and other estuarine plants.

**Tapinocyba insecta, L. Koch.**

*Tapinocyba Insecta*, L. Koch, Cambr., Proc. Dors.  
N.H. and A.F. Club, Vol. xxix, p. 179.

An adult female received from Fenagh, Ireland, from Mr. D. R. P. Beresford. As yet this is an exceedingly rare species.

**Fam. ULOBORIDÆ.**

**Uloborus Walckenaerius, Latr.**

Adults of both sexes were found by Dr. Jackson in the New Forest in June, 1909, where it was met with by myself in 1858. It has only been recorded, since 1858, at Bloxworth and Wokingham.

**Hyptiotes paradoxus, C. L. Koch.**

Examples of the adult female were found, and sent to me in August, 1909, from Glengariff, County of Cork,

Ireland, by Mr. Wallis Kew. This occurrence is interesting, being only the third locality in the British Isles whence it has been recorded. It was first found by the late Mr. Meade, F.R.C.S., &c., of Bradford, Yorkshire, in the Lake District of Cumberland in 1863, and subsequently in 1894 near Brockenhurst, New Forest, by Mr. Cecil Warburton; also afterwards (1895) I found it in June in fair abundance in the same New Forest locality. On the 18th of July the examples I met with were of both sexes and mostly adult; and I had now the opportunity of observing them in their curiously imperfect orbicular snares, and to see how they assisted the entanglement of their prey by suddenly letting loose a line held in readiness in their claws. The three far separated localities mentioned above show a remarkably wide distribution in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

### Fam. EPEIRIDÆ.

#### Sub.-Fam. TETRAGNATHINÆ.

##### *Tetragnatha pinicola*, L. Koch.

An adult female received from the Rev. J. F. Bloom, by whom it was found near Stratford-on-Avon in 1909.

#### Sub.-Fam. EPEIRIDÆ.

##### *Cercidia prominens*, Westr.

An adult of each sex received from Mr. H. Donisthorpe, from near Ryde, September, 1909.

##### *Singa hamata*, Clerk.

Adult females were found in tolerable abundance near Brockenhurst in June, 1909, by Dr. A. R. Jackson



**Singa Herii**, Hahn.

An adult male of this very distinct species was recorded (Proc. Dors. F. Club, Vol. XIV., 1893, p. 160) from Wicken Fen, Cambridgeshire, taken by Mr. Cecil Warburton in 1892. I have recently found in my collection an example (hitherto overlooked) of the adult female, also taken by Mr. Warburton in the same locality in 1900.

**Singa sanguinea**, C. L. Koch.

Adult as well as immature examples of both sexes were found by Dr. A. R. Jackson near Brockenhurst early in June, 1909, and subsequently at the Poole salt-terns, and also on Bloxworth Heath. In the adult males the cephalothorax was black, or nearly so.

**Epeira dromedaria**, Walck.

Adult females were again met with by Dr. Jackson at Burnham Beeches, Buckinghamshire, early in June, 1909. The males, however, have still eluded discovery.

**Epeira alsine**, Walck.

An adult female was sent to me from near Ryde, I. of Wight, where it was also found by Mr. H. Donisthorpe, in September, 1909.

**Epeira agalena**, Bl.

Male adults were taken on iron railings at Bloxworth Rectory at the end of May, 1909; an adult example of each sex was also sent to me from Aviemore, Inverness-shire, Scotland, by Mr. Eustace R. Bankes; these last were remarkable for the vividness of their colouring and markings.

**Epeira triguttata**, (?) Fabr.

Adults of both sexes on iron railings, Bloxworth Rectory, May 19th, 1909.

**Fam. THOMISIDÆ.****Xysticus ulmi, Hahn.**

Immature examples received from the Rev. J. H. Bloom, Whitchurch, Stratford-on-Avon, July, 1909; an example was also received from Mr. H. Donisthorpe, found near Ryde, in September, 1909.

**Xysticus robustus, Hahn.**

An adult male and two adult females were received from Mr. H. Donisthorpe, by whom they were found in a sand-pit in the New Forest, near the Beaulieu Road station, in May, 1909. This species has not been recorded in Britain since July, 1882, when I met with the female among heather on Bloxworth Heath, the only example (an adult male) recorded previous to that having occurred in the same locality in May, 1854. It is, in many respects, one of the most striking species, and one of the largest of those found in Great Britain, if not also in Europe.

**Xysticus luctator, L. Koch.**

An adult male of this fine species was found by Mr. H. Donisthorpe in the New Forest at the same time and in the same locality as the species last recorded (*X. robustus*, Hahn.). It is as large, and even longer in the legs than that species. The only examples previously recorded as British are the adult male (noted above, p. 48), found by myself on Bloxworth Heath in May, 1854, and an adult female not long after in the same locality.

**Oxyptila nigrita, Thor.**

An adult female found by Dr. A. R. Jackson, either at Portland or at Swanage, in 1908. The only hitherto recorded occurrences of this species in Great Britain were at Deal in 1907 and Dover in 1906 (see Proc. Dors. N.H. and A.F. Club, XXIX., p. 181, 1908). The present record, therefore, is its first in the county of Dorset.

## Fam. LYCOSIDÆ.

**Trochosa cinerea**, Fabr.

An adult female received from Scotland, from Dr. Sharp, and another of the same sex from Northallerton (per Mr. F. M. Campbell).

**Tarentula pulverulenta**, Clerck.

*Tarentula aculeata*, Clerck-Cambr. Spid., Dorset, p. 549, and List of British and Irish Spiders, p. 67.

Having been able to compare the Spiders thought to be *T. aculeata*, Clerck, l.c., with examples of the true *aculeata* from Switzerland it appears certain that the former are only *pulverulenta*, Clerck ; *T. aculeata*, Clk., must therefore be expunged from the British List.

## Fam. OXYOPIDÆ.

**Oxyopes heterophthalmus**, Latr.

*Sphasus lineatus*, Walck.-Bl., Spiders of Great Britain and Ireland, p. 34, Pl. iii., Fig. 22.

*Oxyopes lineatus*, Latr.-Cambr., Spid. Dors., p. 552, and List of British and Irish Spid., p. 69.

*Oxyopes heterophthalmus*, Latr.-Sim, Araneides de France, tom. III., p. 220.

An adult female and immature examples of both sexes were found by Dr. A. R. Jackson in the New Forest in May, 1909, where in September, 1858, I had myself met with it. These are, so far as I am aware, the only known British occurrences of this very rare and striking-looking species. The reference to it in "Spiders of Dorset" and "List of British and Irish Spiders," as *Oxyopes lineatus*, Latreille, was an oversight ; it should have been *O. lineatus*, Walckenaer, of which there appears to be no doubt that the specific name *heterophthalmus*, Latr., is a synonym, and has priority over *lineatus*, Walck.

**Marpessa pomatia**, Walck.

An adult female of this large and distinct salticid was received in September, 1909, from Wicken Fen, Cambridgeshire, where it was found by Mr. H. Donisthorpe.

**Attus caricis**, Westr.

*Attus caricis*, Westr.-Cambr., Spid. Dors., p. 563, and Proc. Dors. N.H. and A. Field Club., Vol. X., p. 135.

*Dendryphantes hastatus*, C. L. Koch-Cambr., List of Brit. and Irish Spiders, p. 71, 1900.

A comparison of types of *Dendryphantes hastatus*, C. L. Koch (sent me by Dr. Ludwig Koch) with those of *Attus caricis*, Westr.-Cambr., proves the identity of these two spiders. It is a widely distributed species, and has been found not only in Norfolk, Suffolk, Wiltshire, and Dorsetshire, but as far north as Cumberland. As yet it is among our rarer forms.

**Salticus formicarius**, Walck.

An immature female, found in an ant's nest (*Myrmica scabrinodes*) near Ryde, was sent to me in September, 1909, by Mr. H. Donisthorpe.

## Order PHALANGIDEA.

## Fam. PHALANGIDÆ.

**Oligolophus Hansenii**, Kraeplin.

An example of this species was sent to me from Warwickshire, where it was found by the Rev. J. H. Bloom, in August, 1909.

## Order THELYPHONIDEA.

## Sub-order THELYPHONIDES.

## Fam. TARTARIDÆ.

**Trithyreus Bagnallii**, Jackson. See Proc. Dors. N.H. and A.F. Club XXIX., 1908, p. 185.

„ „ Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc., Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, n.s., Vol. III., part I., p. 29, 1908.

„ „ Bulletin, Royal Bot. Gardens, Kew, No. 6, 1909, p. 250.

I have again recently received two examples of this curious arachnid from the Royal Gardens at Kew; both, however, are females, so that the male is still necessary to show some of the best specific distinctions of the species.

P.M.—Very recently (since the foregoing was read), I have received a copy of a Paper by the Rev. J. E. Hull on the genus *Tmeticus* and other allied genera, with records of some other northern spiders. (Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc., Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle, n.s., Vol. III., part 3, pp. 573, 590, Pl. xv., 1910). In this paper the occurrence of *Hypselistes florens*, Cambr., and *Notioscopus sarcinatus*, Cambr., in Yorkshire is recorded.

## LIST OF ARACHNIDA

*In the foregoing pages, and reference to page and Plate A.*

## ARANEIDEA.

<i>Atypus affinis</i> , Eichw.	p. 49
<i>Ischnothyreus velox</i> , Jackson.	p. 50
<i>Drassus pubescens</i> , Thor.	p. 50

Prosthesima pedestris, C. L.		
Koch.	p. 50	
Clubiona neglecta, Cambr.	p. 50	
Clubiona facilis, sp.n.	p. 50	Figs. 1, 2, 3.
Cryphoea incisa, Cambr.	p. 51	
Circurina cinerea, Panz.	p. 51	
Tegenaria Derhamii, Scop.	p. 51	
Theridion aulicum, Lucas.	p. 51	
Leptyphantes patens, Cambr.	p. 51	
Porrhomma microphthalmum,		
Cambr.	p. 52	
Porrhomma inerrans, Cambr.	p. 52	
Hilaira excisa, Cambr.	p. 52	
Hilaira uncata, Cambr.	p. 52	
? Oreoneta (Tmeticus, Cambr.)		
fortunata, Cambr.	p. 52	
Mengea [F.O.P.-C.] (Tmeticus,		
Cambr.) Warburtonii,		
Cambr.	p. 52	
Microneta innotabilis, Cambr.	p. 53	
Microneta passiva, Cambr.	p. 53	Figs. 4, 5, 6
Sintula fausta, Cambr.	p. 53	
Gongylidium morum, Cambr.	p. 53	
Typhocrestus digitatus, Cambr.	p. 53	
Diplocephalus picinus, Bl.	p. 53	
Hypselistes florens, Cambr.	p. 54	Figs. 7, 8, 9, 10.
Hypselistes Jacksonii, Cambr.	p. 54	
Lophocarenum stramineum,		
Menge.	p. 55	
Thyreosthenius biovatus,		
Cambr.	p. 55	
Araeoncus æquus, sp.n.	p. 55	Figs. 11, 12, 13.
Notioscopus sarcinatus, Cambr.	p. 55	Figs. 14, 15, 16, 17.
Styloctetor penicillatus, Westr.	p. 56	
Troxochrus cirrifrons, Cambr.	p. 56	Fig. 19.
Troxochrus scabriculus, Westr.	p. 56	Fig. 18.
Evansia merens, Cambr.	p. 57	



<i>Eboria caliginosa</i> , Falconer.	p. 58	Figs. 20, 21, 22, 23, 23a.
<i>Cornicularia Kochii</i> , Cambr.	p. 58	
<i>Tapinocyba insecta</i> , L. Koch.	p. 59	
<i>Uloborus Walckenaerius</i> , Latr.	p. 59	
<i>Hyptiotes paradoxus</i> , C. L. Koch.	p. 59	
<i>Tetragnatha pinicola</i> , L. Koch.	p. 60	
<i>Cercidia prominens</i> , Westr.	p. 60	
<i>Singa hamata</i> , Clerck.	p. 60	
<i>Singa Herii</i> , Hahn.	p. 61	
<i>Singa sanguinea</i> , C. L. Koch.	p. 61	
<i>Epeira dromedaria</i> , Walck.	p. 61	
<i>Epeira alsine</i> , Walck.	p. 61	
<i>Epeira agalena</i> , Bl.	p. 61	
<i>Epeira triguttata</i> , ? Fabr.	p. 61	
<i>Xysticus ulmi</i> , Hahn.	p. 62	
<i>Xysticus robustus</i> , Hahn.	p. 62	Figs. 26, 27, 28.
<i>Xysticus luctator</i> , L. Koch.	p. 62	Figs. 24, 25.
<i>Oxyptila nigrita</i> , Thor.	p. 62	
<i>Trochosa cinerea</i> , Hahn.	p. 63	
<i>Tarentula pulverulenta</i> Clk.	p. 63	
<i>Oxyopes heterophthalmus</i> , Latr.	p. 63	
<i>Marpessa pomatia</i> , Walck.	p. 64	
<i>Attus caricis</i> , Westr.	p. 64	Figs. 29, 30, 31, 32, 33.
<i>Salticus formicarius</i> , Walck.	p. 64	

## PHALANGIDEA.

<i>Oligolophus Hansenii</i> , Kraeplin.	p. 64
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## THELYPHONIDEA.

<i>Trithyreus Bagnallii</i> , Jackson.	p. 65
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## DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO OF THE SPIDERS IN THE FOREGOING LIST.

**Clubiona facilis**, sp. nov., Pl. A, Figs. 1, 2, 3, p. 50.

*Adult female*, length rather over 5 lines.

In general appearance and colour, this fine species is much like *Clubiona holosericea*, Degeer., but is rather larger; the *Cephalothorax* is but very slightly constricted on the lateral margins at the junction of the caput and thorax, and the profile line forms a continuous curve; it is of a reddish yellow-brown hue deepening into a rich red-brown on the caput, and furnished with a short silky grey pubescens in parts, probably in a more perfect example over the greater part. The legs are dull yellow above, whitish yellow underneath, furnished normally with spines, and with a dense scopula of dark hairs beneath the tarsi and metatarsi of the first and second pairs of legs.

The *Eyes* are small, and in the normal position. Those of the posterior row are in very nearly a straight line, and separated by nearly equal intervals, that between the two central eyes being a little greater than between each of them and the laterals.

The *Falces* are massive, prominent, and of a deep shining dark red-brown colour.

The *Abdomen* is of a dull yellowish colour, apparently furnished thinly with greyish pubescens and some fine black hairs; and a dark blackish pattern is traceable on the upper side, consisting of some lateral lines, and several transverse angular bars, or chevrons, on the hinder half in the median line; the foremost of these bars traverses the whole of the width of the abdomen. On the fore part of the abdomen there are also traces of a central longitudinal dark marking and a lateral one on each side as well. The under side is whitish yellow. The spinners are cylindrical, those of the inferior pair are much longest and largest, they are of a yellow hue, the superior pair whitish. The genital aperture is large and of a very distinctive form.

A single adult female was received from Mr. W. P. Winter, by whom it was found near the canal between Earby and Gargrave, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, among vegetation under a wall. This spot is quite in the country, so that it is highly improbable that it may have been a foreign importation. M. Simon thinks that it must be an "exotic," but although the importation of foreign spiders often occurs, it has not, so far as I am aware, ever been known to happen in any spot thus far removed from foreign traffic and commerce. At any rate, even if this should have been the case in the present instance, this spider appears to be undoubtedly a species new to science, and a very remarkable one.

**Araeoncus aequus**, sp.n., Pl. A., Figs. 11, 12, 13, p. 55.

*Adult female*, length 1 line.

*Cephalothorax* broad, gradually narrowing to the fore extremity, but with little or no lateral impression at the junction of the caput and thorax. Occiput rather roundly convex, and its profile slopes gradually forwards in an even line to the lower margin of the clypeus, the height of which is about half that of the facial space, and there are several curved hairs in the median line on the hinder part of the caput. The colour is yellow-brown, a little darker on the sides of the caput.

*Eyes* small in two almost equally curved rows, whose convexities are in opposite directions, or four pairs, those of the posterior row are nearly equally separated; the interval between the two centrals being perhaps rather the largest. The four central eyes form a square, whose anterior side is much the shortest.

*Legs* moderate, and almost equal, in length, colour pale and yellowish, that of the first and second pairs suffused slightly with yellow-brown; they are furnished with fine hairs, those of the under sides of the femora arranged (as is the case in so many spiders) in two parallel longitudinal lines; and there is a fine bristle on each of the genual and tibial joints of the two hinder pairs.

*Falces* strong, straight, and directed a little backwards, colour yellow-brown.

*Abdomen* dark brown, of a regular oval form, and thinly clothed with fine hairs. The genital aperture is very characteristic in size and form.

Though somewhat obscure, I believe this spider to be of the genus *Araeoncus*, Sim., and have conjectured that it might possibly be the female of *A. longiusculus*, Cambr., of which I formerly described the male from Corsica, but have never as yet seen an authentic female. Meanwhile, it is certainly, I think, distinct from any of our British species, and on the whole it is perhaps safer to describe it as new rather than to relegate it to an already described species without a type of the latter with which to compare it.

A single example was sent to me in April, 1909, from Rams' Head, Cornwall, where it was found in a nest of the ant *Tetramorum cæspitum* by Mr. H. Donisthorpe.

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### CORRECTION OF A FORMER PAPER.

The following corrections should be made of one or two mistakes in the paper on "British Arachnida" (Proc. Dors. Nat. Hist. and Antiq. Field Club, Vol. XXX., p. 97, 1909).

Page 104, under heading of *Mengea Warburtonii*, Camb., instead of "by Mr. W. Falconer," read "and has been received by," etc.

Page 106, under heading *Erigone arctica*, White-Cambr., instead of Sunderland, read North Sunderland.

Page 107, under heading *Cornicularia valida*, Jackson, line 9, from top of page for "longer" read "larger."

Page 113, under heading *Hyctia Nivoyi*, Lucas, for "Saltend Common, near Hull," read "Spurn;" and instead of "Mr. W. Falconer has met with it here," read Mr. W. F. "has not himself met with it," etc., etc.







MATTHEW PRIOR.





## The Birthplace of Matthew Prior,

SCHOLAR, POET, AND DIPLOMATIST.

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By the Rev. JAS. M. J. FLETCHER, M.A.

(Read Dec. 14th, 1909.)

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To Matthew Prior, Poet and Scholar,  
Born at Eastbrook in this Town  
Anno 1664. Died September 18, 1721,  
In the Fifty Seventh Year of His Age,  
Weld Taylor, Esq., has placed this Brass  
To His Memory.  
(Perennis et Fragens.)



SO runs the inscription on a modern brass, which was placed against the South Wall of the West Porch, beneath the Belfry, at Wimborne Minster, some quarter of a century ago, by Mr. Weld Taylor, an artist, who for a long period acted as drawing master at Wimborne Grammar School. An article by him in "Longman's Magazine" for October, 1884, entitled "Was Matthew Prior a Dorsetshire Man?" may be known to some of our members.

There has, we believe, always been a tradition in Wimborne that Matthew Prior was a native of the town, and that his father was a carpenter. Various houses or sites are pointed out as places where at one time or other his parents lived, or

where he was born. We have some old cottages in Wimborne, but the life of a small house in a country town does not always amount to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  centuries ; and my own impression is that the original home of his childhood's days does not now exist, though I feel sure that its locality is known, although the house itself has been pulled down. And the passage which connects East Boro' with West Boro', called in the old maps of Wimborne *Luke's Lane*, has, of recent years, had its name changed to that which it is said to have sometimes borne, from the use which the poet made of the street in question in the days of his childhood,—“ *Prior's Walk*.”

Weld Taylor, in his article in “ Longman's,” speaks of an old lady, a Miss Knott (at the time when she gave the information, ninety years of age), who told him that her father and grandfather often spoke of the Priors' occupancy of the house alluded to, and of Matthew frequently coming out of the door which there then was in the wall. It was on the South side of the lane, where it joins East Boro'.

Hutchins, in his original edition of the “ History of Dorset ” (1774, Vol. II., p. 75), points out that it is highly probable that Matthew Prior was born at Wimborne, but that no entry of his baptism could be found in the Registers—his parents presumably being Dissenters.

The tradition in Wimborne that Prior was born there has been spoken of. We now turn to another tradition :—

Amongst the many objects of interest which are to be seen in the Minster at Wimborne is a copy of Sir Walter Raleigh's *History of the World*, which has now a place in the large glass-case in the centre of the room, commonly called the Library, in which the celebrated collection of chained books is deposited. It is not the distinguished author's name, nor yet the subject matter of the volume, nor even the antiquity of this particular edition of Sir Walter's great work (A.D. 1614), which makes it such an object of attraction to the multitude of visitors who, during the course of the year, come to inspect the treasures of the Minster. But its special interest arises from the fact that a hole has been burnt through a considerable portion

of the volume, and that each page has been so neatly repaired, and the missing words so carefully re-written with the pen, that in many instances it is scarcely noticeable that the page has suffered any damage, excepting a slight discolouration, unless the attention is especially drawn to it.

What adds to the interest is the tradition that the injury to the volume in question was caused by Matthew Prior, who is said, in the days of his boyhood, to have been reading in the Library ; and, falling asleep over his studies, to have upset his candle, and thus inadvertently to have seriously damaged the book. Report adds that, in order as far as possible to atone for his carelessness, the future poet set himself to repair the charred portion of each page (there are in all about 100 pages which have suffered), and to fill up with his pen the missing portions of the history.

That the book has suffered from burning is a fact ; but that it was done by the carelessness of the youthful Prior in the manner above stated cannot have been the case ; and that for two reasons :—

(1) When he was quite young, his father, as will be seen presently, removed from Dorset to London. But as Matthew Prior was born in 1664, and the Chained Library was not established until 1686, when he would be 22 years of age, it follows that he must have left Wimborne some number of years before this time.

(2) A slight examination of the book would show that the injury could not have been done by a fallen lighted candle ; but that it must have been caused by a red hot iron ; and that the hole must have been produced intentionally, even if it was not made maliciously.

But, although this picturesque tradition of the damage having been inadvertently done to the volume in question by the drowsy boy and its subsequent reparation, must be put aside as baseless, yet I venture to think that the evidence is conclusive that Matthew Prior may be claimed as a native of Dorset ; and, what is more, that his birthplace was as certainly Wimborne itself.

Dr. Samuel Johnson, in the account of Prior, given in his "Lives of the Poets," writes :—

"Matthew Prior is one of those that have burst out from an obscure original to great eminence. He was born July 21, 1664, according to some, at Winburn in Dorsetshire, of I know not what parents ; others say that he was the son of a joiner in London : he was perhaps willing enough to leave his birth unsettled, in hope, like Don Quixote, that the historian of his actions might find him some illustrious alliance."

And in a note the great lexicographer adds :—

\* "The difficulty of settling Prior's birthplace is great. In the register of his college he is called, at his admission by the President (a) Matthew Prior of Winburn in Middlesex ; by himself next day (b) Matthew Prior of Dorsetshire, in which county, and not in Middlesex, Winborne . . . in the *Villare* is found. When he stood a candidate for his fellowship, five years afterwards, he was registered again by himself as of (c) Middlesex . . . It is observable that, as a native of Wimborne, he is styled *Filius Georgii Prior, generosi* ; not consistently with the common account of the meanness of his birth."

The account of Prior in the last edition of Hutchins' Dorset, at any rate, so far as his early life is concerned, is taken from Dr. Johnson's "Lives of the Poets," whole sentences and even paragraphs being copied verbatim. But the editors add the statement, given if I remember rightly by Hutchins, though

\* (a) Matthaëus Prior, Dorcestr : (*altered by a later hand to Middlesexiensis*) filius Georgii Prior, generosi, natus infra Winburn in praedicto comitatu, atque literis institutus in schola Westmonasteriensi sub M<sup>ro</sup> Busby per triennium, admissus est pensionarius ætatis suae 17, et quod excurrit, tutore et fidejussore ejus M<sup>ro</sup> Billers, 2 Aprilis, 1683. [Admission Registers of St. John's Coll : Cambridge.—Pt. II., pp. 92-93. Deighton 1893].

(b) Ego Matthaëus Prior, *Dorcestriensis*; juratus et admissus sum in discipulum hujus collegii pro domina Sarah ducisca Somersettienti ex ipsius nominatione die 3<sup>io</sup> Aprilis (1683).

(c) Ego Matthaëus Prior, *Middlesexiensis*, juratus et admissus sum in perpetu' socium hujus Coll'. pro D<sup>re</sup> Keyton, decessore M<sup>ro</sup> Roper, 3 April, 1688.

not by Dr. Johnson, that tradition says that he (Prior) was educated at the (Grammar) School (in Wimborne).

It appears that the difficulty in ascertaining where Matthew Prior was born arises entirely from the variations in the entries in the Registers of St. John's College, Cambridge.

Hutchins, with regard to these statements, says :—"The learned Thomas Baker, B.D., once Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, informed Mr. Browne Willis that he (Prior) was born here (at Wimborne) of mean parents, to conceal which he entered himself at college as of Wimborne, Middlesex."

The following paragraph from Hutchins' "History of Dorset" throws a little more light on the subject :—

"About 1727 (*i.e.*, some six years only after the death of the poet), one Prior of Godmanstone, a labouring man, and living 1755, declared to a company of gentlemen, where Mr. Hutchins was present, that he was Mr. Prior's cousin, and remembered his going to Wimborne to visit him, and afterwards heard that he became a great man."

There is no doubt that during his lifetime Matthew Prior felt keenly the humbleness of his origin, and that he was reticent with regard to his ancestry and the place of his birth.

Amongst the Duke of Portland's MSS. at Welbeck is a letter which was written rather more than nine years after the poet's death by one Conyers Place to his cousin, Dr. Conyers Middleton, who was the principal librarian of the University library at Cambridge :—

Dorchester, Dorset,  
1730, Dec. 7.

Cousin Middleton,

Pursuant to your request I send you here an account of Mr. Prior's parentage, from his father's brother's son Christopher Prior. Mr. Prior's grandfather lived at Godminston (Godmanstone), a small village three miles from this town; he had five sons and one daughter called Mary, married to one Hunt of Lighe, a village eight miles hence. Thomas and George, two of the brothers, were bound apprentice to carpenters at Fordington joined to this town; whence they removed to Wimborne about eighteen miles hence eastward where Thomas lived and died, and where George the father of Mr. Prior



married, but how long he lived there I cannot find, only his wife, Mr. Prior's mother, lies buried at Wimborne or by it, with whom I have heard that Mr. Prior desired to be buried before Westminster Abbey was in his eye. That Mr. Prior was born at or by Wimborne I find because Christopher said he remembers his cousin Matthew coming over to Godwinston when a boy and lying with him. George, his father, after his wife's death, I suppose, moved to London, encouraged by his brother Arthur who had succeeded in the world and kept the Rummer Tavern by Charing Cross, the great resort of wits in the latter end of King Charles the Second's reign, and in my remembrance ; who took his nephew to wait in the tavern, from which time you know his history."

Arthur Prior, whose will (dated 1685) was proved in 1687, left to his "cousin Mathew Prior, now in the University of Cambridge" the sum of £100. He also left £5 to the poor of Godmanston, county Dorset, "the parish where I was born." His son Laurence Prior, who was his executor, whose will, dated 1690 was proved in 1691, left "to my cousin Mathew Prior £50 besides what I have still in my hands of the legacy left by my father."—(G. A. AITKEN, in "Cont. Rev." May, 1890.)

The Parish Registers at *Godmanstone* date back to 1650. The Rector has kindly sent me the following entries of Priors :

1746, May 16, Laurence, son of Thomas Prior, buried.

1791, January 9, John, son of Elizabeth Prior, baptized.

1791, April 24, Elizabeth, daughter of Christopher and Elizabeth Prior, baptized. (Notice the continuance of the name Christopher).

1793, February 6, Elizabeth, daughter of Christopher and Eliza Prior, buried,

1834, February 3, Christopher Prior, buried.

1879, October 11, Martha Prior, buried.

Enquiries have been made in the parishes in the immediate neighbourhood of Wimborne ; but without result.

At *Hampreston*, where the registers date back to 1617, no entry of the name of Prior has been found until the year 1857, when Isaac Prior was married.



No entries of the name have been found at *Corfe Mullen* (1652).

At *Canford* the registers have been searched from 1650 to 1740 ; but no record of any Prior has been discovered. It is just possible that the books may have been carelessly kept in 1664, as the following extract shows that they were ten years later —

“ Memorandum that these Christenings, Burialls, and Marriages war not sett down which arr underwritten from the year 1673 to 1674 with severall other Christnings, &c., by reason this Register Book was in the custody of Mr. William Beaumont, Vicar, who by reason of his age was unmindful of it.”

At *Wareham* the register does not go back further than 1762.

At *Horton* the name of Prior is not mentioned.

At *Hinton Martel* I am told that an old Dissenting family named Prior used to reside ; the old man died recently, and his widow moved to Parkstone.

I have been able to find no mention of his baptism in the Wimborne Minster Parish Registers ; and Hutchins (before 1774) found none ; though presumably the registers were in a better condition and consequently more legible 135 or 140 years ago than they are at the present time.

If Matthew Prior's parents were Dissenters, it would most probably mean that he would not be baptised in Church, and consequently that his name would not appear in the baptismal registers. It sometimes, however, happens that there is a separate page in the registers on which the births of Dissenters' children are inscribed. In the third volume of the registers belonging to Wimborne Minster (1694–1764), there are three pages in which “ Dissenters' births ” are registered, 62 in number between the years 1694 and 1771. There is no corresponding list in the earlier volumes, and even this list does not seem to have been carefully kept—there being in one or two places gaps of ten years without entries being made.

That Matthew was, in his childhood, brought up as a Dissenter has been assumed from the following lines in his "First Epistle to Fleetwood Shepherd" (dated 1689) :—

So at pure barn of loud Non-con,  
Where with my grannam I have gone,  
When Lobb had sifted all his text,  
And I well hop'd the pudding next ;  
Now TO APPLY, has plagued me more,  
Than all his villain cant before.

This, in all probability, referred to the Rev. Stephen Lobb, who in 1681 settled in London as Independent Pastor of Fetter-lane. He gained some distinction from the accusation brought against him of being concerned in the Rye House Plot, and from his controversy with Stillingfleet. He had three sons, two of whom conformed and became clergymen in the Anglican Church ; the third, Theophilus, was a medical man, and an independent preacher. He was at Shaftesbury from 1706 to 1713. His life was written by his brother-in-law, Rev. John Greene, of Wimborne. But whether Mr. Lobb's lengthy discourses, which the young Prior felt so wearisome, were preached in the neighbourhood of Wimborne, or were delivered in London after the Priors had settled in the metropolis, in either case it would point to the fact of the family being Dissenters.

Weld Taylor, in 1884, writes :—

"At one time the name of Prior was common in the neighbourhood (of Wimborne), and several of the name are still living. One Richard Prior was transported and one was drowned in the Stour some years ago. They were all of the poor or labouring class, and they were Nonconformists."

There is a family residing in Wimborne at the present time which claims relationship with the poet. The wife's maiden name was Prior, and there has always been a tradition in the family that they were connected with the celebrated Matthew Prior.

In the list of subscribers to the 1718 edition of Prior's poems are several Wimborne names.

Two more extracts and we shall have a sufficiency of material from which to make our deductions.

That it was well known, in spite of his learning and of the high position to which he had attained, that he was of humble origin, may be gathered from the following words of Queen Anne, written to the Earl of Oxford :—

“ 1711, Nov. 19, . . . I have no objection to Mr. Prior then what I mentioned in my last, for I always thought it very wrong to send people abroad of meane extraction : but since you think Mr. Prior will be very usefull at this time, I will comply with your desire.”

Does the following extract refer in reality to Matthew Prior's mother, or was the “ Dutch baker ” the mother of some Chloe or other friend of the poet's ?

“ 1698, Aug. 15, Richard Powys to Matthew Prior,—

“ I doubt you will draw another bill upon (me) for a charge, I am to tell you has fallen upon you, though I doubt it will be hardly allowed in your extraordinaries, which is that you must buy a new equipage of mourning for your good old mother, the Dutch baker in King Street, and fell down dead on Friday last. The virtuous young lady you may be sure is under great affliction and wants you to comfort her.”

The Prior family then were living, when first we hear of them, at Godmanstone, in Dorset. The first ancestor we hear of had six children, five sons and a daughter. Of the sons, Arthur went to London, where he became a successful vintner, whose house, the Rummer Tavern, was a favourite meeting place for the more learned men of position in the reign of Charles II. Possibly Samuel, who seems to have owned the “ Rhenish Wine House,” was another of the five sons. A third, Christopher, appears to have remained at Godmanstone. The other two, Thomas and John, who had been apprenticed to carpenters at Fordington, removed to Wimborne, where Thomas died ; and where George married and

where his son Matthew was born.\* Very likely Matthew received the rudiments of his education at the Wimborne Grammar School, but his father, when the boy was quite young, moved to London. Here his uncle Arthur appears to have taken notice of him and to have sent him to Westminster School.

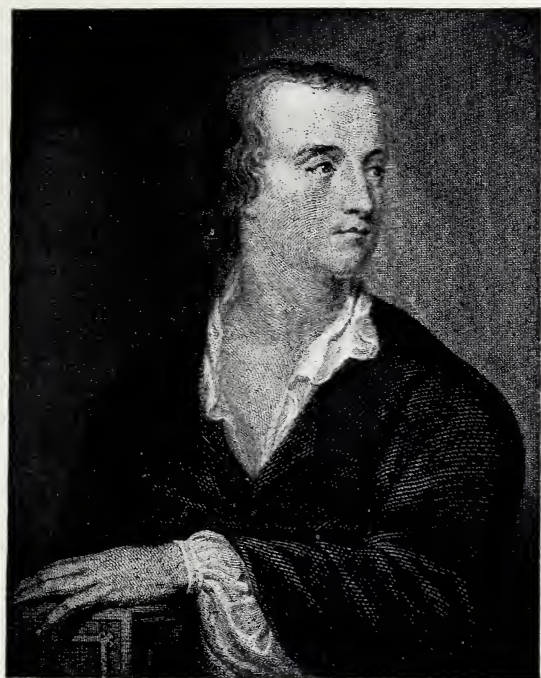
To this uncle he refers in a second "Epistle to Fleetwood Shepherd" :—

My uncle, rest his soul, when living,  
Might have contrived me ways of thriving;  
Taught<sup>a</sup> me with cyder to replenish  
My vats, or ebbing tide of Rhenish.  
So when for hock I drew prick't white-wine,  
Swear't had the flavour and was right wine.  
    &c., &c.

After some little time had been spent at school, his uncle, finding him useful, took him to be his assistant in the wine shop. Here the Earl of Dorset and his friends used to resort, and there one day they found young Matthew with a "Horace" in his hand, and, after asking him some questions, set him to translate an Ode into English. He did it in verse, and so well was his task accomplished, that it became a favourite amusement with visitors to the house to get the boy to translate passages from Ovid and Horace. At Lord Dorset's suggestion, and at his cost, he went back to school, probab'y about the year 1680; and a year later, in 1681, was elected King's Scholar; another Dorset lad, Thomas Dibben, who translated the "Carmen Seculare" into Latin, being one of his school-fellows. But his chief friends at Westminster were Charles and James Montagu, sons of the Hon. Charles Montagu, who lived in a large mansion opposite his uncle's house. In 1683 Prior was elected to a scholarship at St. John's College, Cambridge. Perhaps it was his false shame with respect to

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\* But in consequence of his parents being Dissenters (and at this time one of the Nonconforming Religious Bodies in Wimborne was an Anabaptist one), the child's name does not appear in the Church Registers.







his lowly origin which made him wish to conceal as far as possible the place of his birth, and so in one of the three entries to register himself as a native of Middlesex ; though the name of no town is given—whilst, in the *original* entries in both the other places, he is spoken of as having been born at Wimborne in Dorset. And indeed, there is no such place as Wimborne in Middlesex. The *Index Villaris* gives only Wimborne in Dorset. But, more probably, the suggestion made by a writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1779 (Vol. XLIX., pp. 640—1) gives the reason ; alluding to the question whether Dorset or Middlesex was Matthew Prior's native county he says "Had it been thought of at election time he would have been rejected as incerti comitatus. Only two (Fellows) can be chosen from a county by the college statutes." If already there were two Dorset men who were Fellows of the College, he would not as a third Dorset man be qualified by election. In the two entries, which register his admission to the College, Wimborne, *Dorsetshire*, is mentioned. But in the entry, which chronicles his election, 5 years later, to a fellowship, his county is given as Middlesex—that is the county in which he then resided, and not that in which he was born. In all probability it was to make the earlier register agree with this that in one of the other entries the name Middlesex was substituted for Dorset. He took his B.A. degree in 1686. In the same year, with his friend Charles Montagu, he published "The Story of the Country Mouse and the City Mouse," a parody of Dryden's "The Hind and the Panther." In 1688 he obtained a fellowship at his college, and wrote the annual poem which St. John's College each year sent to its benefactor, the Earl of Exeter. As a result he paid a visit to Burleigh, and became for a short time tutor to Lord Exeter's son. In 1690 he obtained a diplomatic appointment, and went as secretary to the ambassador to the Hague. He had a corresponding appointment in connection with the Treaty of Ryswick in 1697, and then for some time held a similar position in Paris, where he was a *persona grata* at the French

Court. He became M.P. for East Grinstead in 1701. Under Queen Anne he changed his politics and became a Tory. In 1711 he was employed in connection with the Peace of Utrecht. But on the death of the Queen, the Whigs triumphed. And Prior, returning to England in 1715, was impeached and for a time imprisoned. He was released in 1717, but his sole income was that derived from his college fellowship, which, he had prudently retained, although he had given the income to another. His friends arranged about the publication of his poems, of which an issue of 2,000 copies in 1718 brought him in 4,000 guineas. To this Lord Harley added a similar sum, and Down Hall was purchased for him (in Essex). Here, for the most part, he resided during the remainder of his life. He died of a fever at Lord Harley's seat at Wimpole, in Cambridgeshire, on the 18th of September, 1721. The lengthy Latin inscription, consisting of 65 lines, on his monument in Westminster Abbey, was written by Dr. Robert Freind; and over it was placed his bust by Antoine Coysevox, which had been presented to him by Louis XIV. The epitaph is given in full by Dr. Johnson. Notice that here he is described as *Armiger*.

I have tried in this paper simply to speak of the birthplace and early life of the poet, and to give a very brief account of his later life; but not in any way to comment upon him as a poet. In his writings, he did but bear witness to the habits of his time. May I conclude with the words of the Duchess of Portland (cf. *Works of Lady M. W. Montague*, Vol. I., p. 63), that he was "beloved by every living thing in the house, master, child, and servant, human creature, or animal."

The following is a list of some of the works which might be with advantage consulted by those wishing to know more of Matthew Prior:—

"Lives of the Poets," by Dr. Samuel Johnson.

"Matthew Prior," by George A. Aitken, "Cont. Review," May, 1890, Vol. LVII., pages 715-729.

Austin Dobson's Introduction and Notes, prefaced to the "Selections from Prior," published in the Parchment Library, 1889.

"Matthew Prior," in Austin Dobson's Eighteenth Century Vignettes, Third series : Chatto & Windus, 1907

"Dictionary of National Biography," Austin Dobson.

Thackeray's "English Humourists," Oxford Thackeray, Vol. XIII., pp. 579 to 586.

Weld Taylor's article, entitled "Was Matthew Prior a Dorsetshire Man?" in "Longman's Magazine," October, 1884.

Bell's Aldine Edition of Prior (2 vols.), with Mitford's introduction.

"Encyclopædia Britannica."

Seward's "Anecdotes," II., 285-7.

Boswell's "Life of Johnson."

"North British Review," November, 1857.

Grosse's "English Literature," Vol. III., pp. 208-212 (with portrait after Sir Godfrey Kneller's, and facsimile of his handwriting, extract from a letter to Secretary Blaythwayt).

Courthope's "A History of English Poetry" (Macmillan, 1905), Vol. V., pp. 26-30, 108-121.

"Cowper's Letters to Unwin," Jan. 5 and 17, 1782, and March 21, 1784.

Calendar of MSS. of the Marquis of Bath at Longleat (Historical MSS. Commission), especially Vol. III. (Prior Papers).

"Cont. Review," July, 1872.

"Poems, &c., by Matthew Prior, to which are added memories of his life, his last will and testament," &c. Dublin, Grierson, 1723.

"Gentleman's Magazine" especially Vol. XLIX. (A.D. 1779).

The later edition of Hutchins gives the following list of engraved portraits :—

Painting by Richardson, given by him to St. John's College, Cambridge,  
Engraved by G. Vertue.

Portrait after Richardson, by Vertue, 1710.

A mezzotinto, after Richardson, 1718, by J. Simon.

Portrait prefixed to his poems, 1721, 12mo, after H. Rigaud, by Du Floi.

Another, folio, by Clark, 1722.

Another, after Kneller, by J. Faber, 1728, mezzotinto.

A small one by Fourdrinier, prefixed to the duodecimo edition of his poems\_1741





## Dorset Chantries.

(CONCLUDED FROM VOL. XXX., p. 57.)

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By E. A. FRY.

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### *Section D.*

#### PARTICULARS OF KINE AND SHEEP IN VARIOUS DEANERIES.

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The following is the only Sale or Grant of the Cattle mentioned in the Chantry Roll as given for finding lights and other purposes that I have come across in the course of my investigations into Chantry lands. It would have escaped my notice altogether, as it is not indexed in Vol. 68, but that I went through Vols. 67, 68, 258, and 259 page by page to see that nothing had been omitted. I have arranged it under the various Deaneries for easier reference. This list does not account for anything like the total, £99 4s. 8d., given in the Chantry Roll and there can be little doubt that the Churchwardens of the other places (who, according to this list, had the charge of the cattle) did not account for them to the Commissioners. The prices obtained by the sale differ from the valuation in the Chantry Roll and much of the money seems unaccounted for.

The totals for each of the Deaneries as given in the Chantry Roll were

Dorchester Deanery	..	..	£16	16	4
Shaston	„	..	51	11	4
Pimperne	„	..	10	3	4
Whitchurch	„	..	16	13	4
Bridport	„	..	4	0	4
			<hr/>		
			£99	4	8

Vol. 68, p. 100.

Hereafter ensueth the nombre of kyne and sheepe late appteyneing to certain Brotheredes, Guilds, and for finding of certen lights and stipendary priests remaining in the Churchwardens hands hereunder mencioned ; that is to saye

#### DORCHESTER DEANERY, Chantry Roll No. 11.

In the custody of the Churchwardens of

Winterborne Came, 2 Kyne, 14 Shepe	1	3	4
Steple Purbeck, 7 Shepe	0	8	0
Tyneham (called Christchurch Twyneham)			
15 Shepe	1	6	8
Worthe (Matravers) 6 Kyne	2	3	4
<hr/>			
	5	1	4

#### SHASTON DEANERY, Chantry Roll No. 20A.

In the custody of the Churchwardens of

Marnhull, 3 Kyne..	1	10	0
Caundell Bishoppe, 41 Shepe	5	0	0
Hollwall, 242 Shepe	24	0	0
<hr/>			
	30	10	0

#### PIMPERNE DEANERY, Chantry Roll No. 32.

In the custody of the Churchwardens of

Gussage Mich'is, 40 Shepe	3	0	0
Longecrechell, 50 Shepe, 3 Kyne	5	0	0
<hr/>			
	8	0	0



## WHITCHURCH DEANERY, Chantry Roll No. 38.

In the custody of the Churchwardens of					
Iberton, 9 Kyne	..	..	..	4	2 0
Kingeston St. Cruc (probably W. King-					
ston), 4 Shepe, 1 Cow	..	..	..	0	13 4
Piddel Hinton, 6 Shepe	..	..	..	0	7 0
Piddel Trentlid, 40 Shepe	..	..	..	2	13 4
Buckland (Newton), 6 Kyne	..	..	..	3	0 0
					<hr/> 10 15 8

## BRIDPORT DEANERY, Chantry Roll No. 54.

In the custody of the Churchwardens of					
Beamister, 1 Cowe	..	..	..	0	10 0
Hylton (sic but query Litton Cheney)					
1 Cowe	..	..	..	0	10 0
Powerstocke, 1 Cowe	..	..	..	0	10 0
Mayden newton, 50 Shepe	..	..	..	2	13 4
					<hr/> 4 3 4
					<hr/> £58 10 4
The premisses are sold to John					
Hannam for ..				£60	10 0
					<hr/>

*Section E.*

Of the following items on the Chantry Roll I have been unable to find any further particulars than there given.

## Chantry Roll 53 (72).

Certain lands in Chardstock (Holdiche Mead. Avense, Woolmington, and Garnespitt), some information will be found in Hutchins, Vol. II., 87.

## Chantry Roll No. 79.

An Obit in Alton Pancras for Dne Mirrell, Hugh Rosse, mil. and Ralph Ross

£1 0 0

Hutchins IV., 461 spells the names somewhat differently.

## Chantry Roll No. 80.

Certain lands in Wareham for the sustentation of a Light  
in the Church of the Blessed Mary 4 8

---

Hutchins does not mention it.

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## Chantry Roll No. 81.

Certain lands in Wareham belonging to the Fraternity  
called Corpus Christi Brotherhood 8 4

---

Hutchins mentions it in Vol. 1, 109.

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## Chantry Roll No. 81, Memorandum.

The Free School lands here mentioned in Milton (Middleton Tregonnell) no doubt were appropriated to that institution, which in 1785 was transferred to Blandford, and is still in existence there. See an account of it in Hutchins Vol. IV., 396.

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## Chantry Roll No. 89.

The Lepers House in Dorchester had no lands attached to it, but received yearly from Mr. Williams £2 0 0

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It is mentioned in Hutchins, Vol. II., 366.

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## Chantry Roll No. 116.

The Almshouses in Blandford had certain lands in the Fields of Pimperne in the tenure of John Pynge, for which he paid a load of firewood annually. I can find no further particulars of these lands.

Hutchins gives an account of these Almshouses in Vol. I., 237. They are still in existence.

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## Chantry Roll No. 117.

The Almshouse in Wareham, which is still existing, was founded by John Streche in the reign of Henry IV., who, by his will, endowed it with lands in Olewell (Uwell) in Swanwich and Le Bailley (now Bailey Ridge) in Lillington. I have not seen particulars of these lands but an account will be found in Hutchins, Vol. I., 89, 674, and in Vol. IV., 196.

*Section F.*CHANTRIES NOT MENTIONED IN THE CHANTRY  
ROLL.**Fraternity of St. John in Bere.**

Grant to John Dodington for 21 years.

File No. 31, 14.

29 April 9 Eliz. 1567

Terr. conclat. in Bere in co. Dors. val. in

Firma cujusdam prati continen. p.

estimac. 3 acras pcell. nup.

Fraternitatis Sci. Johnis apud

Bere modo vel nup. in tenur.

Thome Turb'vyle p. ann.

1 6

The fine is 4 years' rent.

**Chapel in Halstock.**

Grant and Lease to John Dodington.

Vol. 259, 205 and File 31, No. 13.

29 Jan. 1566

Though entered in Vol. 259, 205, it is not clear to whom it was sold, the names of Robert Carre and John Almond and also John Strobridge occurring, but without the usual declaration in whose name it should be passed. The Patent Rolls are also silent. However, by the contents of File 31, No. 13, it will be seen that it was eventually leased in 1566 to John Dodington.

Capella infra poch. de Halstock, val. in

Lapid. et mearm. dict. Capelle infra poch

de Halstock

13 4

This Chapell standeth upon the grounds belonging to the psonage and was made by the pshioners but there belongeth neither land, tents, nor stocke to yt. It was builded for a Brotherhod and given oũ. for lack of abilitie.

File 31, No. 13. Halstock.

A certificat made to the Right Honorable William, Marquis of Winchester, Lord Treasourour of England and Sir

Walter Mildmaye, Knight, Channcellor of the Honorable Courte of Exchequere, touching the declaracon of suche matter as is contained in a lre by them unto the Surveior of the countie of Dors or to his deputie directed bearing date the 12th daie of Marche 1565.

DORS.—Ther is in the poch of Halstocke in the countie aforesaid a Chappell and a certen pcell of grounde conteininge by estimation 2 acres wheruppon the same Chappell standeth which Chappell and pcell of grounde by informacon made unto yo<sup>r</sup> honours is pretended to be wrongefullie witheholden from the Quenes maiestie.

For the better triall and examinacon of the Quenes maieties title in that behalf I resorted to the said Chappell wheare aswell by reporte of the tennants and inhtannts of the said poche as also by other honest and credeble parsonnes it is manifestlie for truethe affirmed that the Chappell above named is and hathe ben alwaies called Sainte Judethes Chappell otherwise called a free Chappell in whiche ther was sumtyme a Fraternitie or Brotherod of Sainte Judethe ; And to the same Chapple belongethe adjoining thereunto two acres of ground in severall alredie allotted and appointed by metes and boundes to remayne to the said Chappell as before tyme hathe ben accustomed ; Whiche said Chappell and other the premisses are now occupied and hathe ben since the dissolucon of the same by the farmers of the psonage of Halstocke aforesaid w<sup>o</sup>ute any accompte or rente yelden or paid there fore unto the Quenes maiestie who ought to have enioyed and ben aunswered the same and of the profits thereof by force of the Statute made in the firste yeare of o<sup>r</sup> late Sou'aign Lorde Kinge Edward the VIth as by the said Statute appeareth.

The said Chappell was purchased by one John Strowbridge of Collesdon (viz., Colliton, Devon) in the 7th yeare of the reign of o<sup>r</sup> said late sou'aign Lorde Kinge Edward the VI. But the said two acres of ground thereunto belonging doe yet remayne in the Quenes maiesties hands. Also there is within the said poche of Halstocke a howse with a backside and an orchard apperteineinge to the same called S<sup>r</sup>. Peters howse which is also certified by the foresaide tennants and inhtanntes of Halstocke to be given for praienge for the deed in the poche church of Halstocke and the same hath also been concealed from the Quenes maiestie hetherunto.

per me THOMA MYLLER,

Deputat. Supvis.

Terr. concelate infra pochaim de Halstocke in  
com. Dorset pdict.

Terr. et tent. in parochia de Halstocke in com.  
predict. val. in.

Reddit. sive firma duas acras pastur.  
ptin Capelle in pochia de Halstocke  
nuncupat. Sainte Judithes Chapell  
sup. quam eadem Capella scituat  
est modo injuste et sine titulo  
occupat. per Johem Sheppard  
firmarium R'corie de Halstocke  
valet p. ann.

2 0

Reddit. sive firm. unius domus sive  
cotagii cum le Backside et uno  
pomario eidem ptinen. voc. S<sup>r</sup>.  
Peters Howse modo vel nuper in  
tenur. sive occupacone Thome  
Pankarde quondam dat et con-  
cesse pro oraciõe aïar. defunctor.  
in ecclia pochial de Halstocke  
predca p. ann.

2 0

4 0

The fyne (4 yeres rent) cancelled and "nil" written above  
because the land is conceyled and must be tried at his charge.

29 Jan. 1566.

Lease to John Dodington for 21 yeres.

### Fraternity of Lodres.

Grant to John Holman for 21 years.

File 33, No. 57.

15 Feb. 4 Edw. VI. 1550

Parochia de Lodres val. in

Reddit. sive firma unius domus vocat.  
the Brotherhede House cum pvus  
curtillag. ordin. ptinen. scituat. et  
existen. in Lodres in com (Dorset)  
ptinen. Fratintate ibm in tenura  
Johnis Holman p. ann.

1 4

Memor. that there is none other lands belonging to the  
Fratintatye in Lodres aforesaid than is above mentioned

and that the other pfitts belonging to the same ryse upon the sayle of ayle at certeyn tymes in the yere.

Hutchins refers to this Fraternity in Vol. II., 308.

### Chantry of Margaret St. John, in Shaftesbury.

Grant to Silvester Taverner.

Vol. 258, 1. File No. 1,998. 12 Apl. 3 Edw. VI. 1549  
Cantar. in Ville de Shaston vocat.

Margaret Sainte John val. in

Firma domus mansionis de Cantar.

in tenur, Johnis Spencer reddend.

inde p. ann.

3 0

Memor. that there is no other londs apprteyning to the said Chantry then is above specified forasmuch as the said Chauntry was founded wthin the Church of the late Monastery of Shaston and received theire pencons yerelie at the Recevor of the Kings revenues of the Courte of the Augmentac. sens (since) the dissolucon of the late Monastery of Shaston and that the mansion house apperteyning to the said Chauntry is very ruynous and in decay bireason that after the death of thincumbents it remained in the Kings hands.

From the account given by Hutchins in Vol. III. p. 36 of this Chantry it would seem to have been rather an important one, the income amounting to £14 17s. 6d. per annum from divers tenements. Margaret St. John was Abbess of Shaftesbury Abbey from 1460 to 1496, and the Chantry being within the Monastery the property went, no doubt, the same way as the Abbey lands, leaving only the above house undisposed of in Edward VI's time.

### Fraternity of the Blessed Mary in Wike Regis.

Grant to Richard Randall.

Vol. 68, 11. File 1896. 8 July 2 Edw. VI. 1548

Terr. pecl possession Fraternitate Bte Marie de Wike.



## In Wike Regis

Thomas Gray tenit p. indent. un.

cotagm. et 12 acr. terr. voc. "a

Ryve of land" et r. inde p. ann.

7 0

Note at side: The pchaser will stand to the adventure of this at his owne pill. (peril). Memo. the said cottage and 12 acres of land called a Ryve of lande was given to the Brothered of our Ladie, and as the Churchwardens do saye by ther bill the profetts thereof was employed to the mayntenance of a Highway in Wike.

## In Portlande.

Rector ibm tent. unam pcell terr. voc.

The Cheyne cont. duas acr. reddend.

inde p. ann.

2 6

Mem.—That this pcell is called The Chym and is no pcell of the Frnitie abovesaid

---

 9 6

## Repris.

Reddit. resolut. Dne Regine pro dco

cotagio et 12 ac. terr. vocat. a

Ryve of land nunc in tenura Thome

Gray ad manerm. de Wyke p. ann.

(3s. crossed out) 1 6

Reddit. resolut. Dne Regine pro predic.

terr voc. "le Chyne" nunc in

tenura Rectoris ibm ad manerm de

Po tland p. ann. (6d. crossed out)

3 1 9

---

 7 9

At 27 yeres purchas £10 9 3

---

## Chapell of Saint Catherine in Wimborne Minster.

Grant to Robert Thomas of London, Merchant-taylor, and Andrew Salter.

Vol. 259, 242. File 2002. 23 Jan. 3 Edw. VI. 1549

Capell. de Sc. Katerine als voc. "The Armitage" infra villa de Wimborne Mynist. val. in

Redd. sive firma cujusdam Capellae  
 Sancte Katerina vocat "The  
 Armitage" infra villa de Wim-  
 borne (cum uno gardino eidem  
 ptinen modo) in tenur. Johnis  
 Kelley p. ann.

12

At 10 yeres purchas — 10 0

This Chapel is mentioned in Hutchins in Vol. III. 228, 243.

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*Section G.*

FOREIGN CHANTRIES.

Under this denomination have been placed all those Chantries, which, though appearing in the Dorset Chantry Roll, belonged really to other Counties, but held property in Dorset.

**College of Saint Stephens, Westminster.**

Chantry Roll No. 10	Gross income	£146	18	6
	Less Rents resolute	4	8	0
	Nett income	£142	10	6

So far I have been able to account for only about £40 of the above total ; whether the balance remained permanently in the hands of the Crown or what became of it I have not been able to ascertain. I may mention that neither the Valor Ecclesiasticus of 26 Henry VIII. 1535, nor the Middlesex Chantry Survey of Edward VI. agree in the total value of the Dorset properties as given in the Dorset Chantry Roll above.

---

Grant to Thomas Boxley and Robert Reves.

Vol. 68, 108. File 1436. 12 June 2 Edw. VI. 1547

Pcella possession. nup. Colleg. Sci Steph.  
 Westm.

Unum burgag. sive cellar. jac. in Melcombe Rs.  
pcell maner. de Frampton valt. in

Firm. unius burgag. sive Cellar scituat.  
et jacen. in Melcombe Regis in com  
pedo (Dorset) modo in tenur.  
sive occupac. de Lancelot  
Reynolds de anno in annis ad volun.  
Dne R(eddend) inde p. ann.

4 0

---

At 20 yeres pchas £4 0 0

---

Memor. that the said Burgage or cellar is pcel of the  
manor of Frampton being of the yearlie value of £5 (sic)  
and is distante from the said manor of Frampton 8 miles and  
(that) the Kings Majestie hathe no more lands in Melcombe  
Rs in the right of the said Colledge of St. Stephens of Westmr  
then is above mencioned.

---

Grant to Richard Randall.

Vol. 68, 73, File 1896. 8 July 2 Edw. VI. 1548

P'cella possess. nup. Colleg. Sci Stephi Westm.

Manern de Bettiscombe, valt. in

Reddit. trm. tentor. cu ptin. continen.  
30 acr. pastur. et prat. inclus. in  
tenur. Willmi. Martyn p. cop. cur.  
r(edend.) inde p. ann.

3 6

Redd. duor. tentor. continen. 40 ac.  
past. et prat. in tenur. Willmi  
Tanner et Johnis Tanner p. cop.  
cur. r(eddend.) inde p. ann.

5 8

Reddit. 4 tentor. contin. 60 acr. past.  
et prat. quor. 2 voc. Hill, terem  
voc. Ewsay (Eusay) et quartm voc.  
Sayers (Seyars) in tenur. Johnis  
Devinell p. cop. cur. r(eddend.)  
inde p. ann.

12 0

Reddit. duor. tent. cum ptin. in  
Bettiscombe quor. unu. edificat.  
voc. Maykershaye (Maskershey) et  
als. Ressel (Resseles) voc. Ham in  
tenur. Eme Drayton vid. nup. ux  
Johnis Drayton als Gate p. cop.  
cur. r(eddend) inde p. ann.

3 8

Reddit. trm tentor. cum ptin. ibm voc. Gregory Eversham (Eusey) et Hayplace in tenur. Humphri. Paull p. cop. cur. r(eddend) inde p. ann.	7 11
Reddit. unius tent. cu. ptin. voc. le Spence continen. p. estimac. 40 ac. past. et prat. in tenur. Petri Shave p. cop. cur. r(eddend) p. ann.	3 4
Reddit. duor. tentor. voc. Waterhouse et Baschurch cont. p. estim. 60 acr. terr. past. et prat. in tenur. Robt. Rawe et Willmi. Rawe p. cop. cur. r(eddend.) inde p. ann.	8 8
Redd. duorum tent. cum ptin. voc. Horsemill et Combe cont. p. estimac. 15 acr. terr. past. et prat. in tenur. Alic. Wareham p. cop. cur. r(eddend) inde p. ann.	3 8
Redd. unius tent. cm ptin cont. 25 acr. terr. arrab. et past. et 3 acr. prat. in tenur. Thome Baker p. cop. cur. r(eddend) inde p. ann.	3 4
Redd. duor. tent. cu. ptin. voc. Ever- sayes (Eusays) in tenur. Johnis Browne p. cop. cur. r(eddend) inde p. ann.	3 4
	<hr/>
	£2 15 1
Pqiis. cur. ibm (ciõbus annis)	1 0
	<hr/>
	£2 16 1
	<hr/>

Rated at 22 yeares pchase £61 12 10

Add thereunto the advow-

son of the psonage of

Bettiscombe

£7 6 0

---

£68 19 10

---

Md. that there is no woods growing upon the pmisses but only to serve for the repairing of the tents. abovesaid and for making of the defects of the grounds as for hedges and sticks and for such other like.

Grant to Giles Kelway and William Leonard.

Vol. 258, 103. File 1731. 7 March 3 Edw. VI. 1549

Diūs cotag. cu. eor. ptin. in Sanwych pcell.  
possession, nup. Collegii Sci.  
Stephi Westm. in com. Middx.  
valt. in

Firm. unius cotagii cu. gardino ibm in tenura Thome Norrys et Ricci. Busshele sic sibi dimiss. p. tmio vite eor. reddend. inde p. ann.	2 6
---	-----

Firm. unius cotagii cu. gardino ibm sic dimiss. Willmo Harvy et uxor. ss. p. tmio. vite eor. red- dende inde p. ann.	2 6
---	-----

Firm. 4 cotagior. cu. gardin. eisdem ptinen. in tenur. Willmi Saby als. Peres sic sibi dimiss. p. tmio. vite s. reddend. inde p. ann.	10 0
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Firm. unius cotagii cu. gardino in tenur. Willmi Busshele sic sibi dimiss. p. tmio vite sue reddend. inde p. ann.	2 6
--	-----

Firm. unius cotagii cu. gardino in tenur. Robti Hawarde, Nichi. et Henrici fil. ejus sic eisdem dimiss. p. tmio vite eor. reddend. inde p. ann.	2 6
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£1 0 0
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At 10 yeres purchas £10 0 0

Hutchins Vol. I, 661 refers to this Chantry.

Grant to William Perye and John Kyle.

Vol. 258, 133. File 1871. 23 Feb. 3 Edw. VI. 1549

Parcel. posthuc nuper Collegii Sci Stephan.  
Westm. in com. Middx. Duo tent.  
in Benville (in Corscombe) in co.  
Dors. val. in

Firm. un ten. cont. 20 acr. terr. arr. et coe. in Benvile als Benefeld Mshe in tenure Willmi Seintclere (Sen- clere) p. cop. cur. p. ann.	4 0
--	-----

Firm. unius ten. cum cert. terr. eidem  
ptin. jacen. in Benvile als Benfeld  
Mshe pd. modo in tenur. Willmi  
Parker p. cop. cur. p. termin. vite  
sue p. ann.

55 0

---

 £2 19 0
 

---

At 22 yeres purchas £64 18 0

---

Grant to William Moryce and Edward Isaake.

Vol. 259, 292. File 1801. 10 June 4 Edw. VI. 1550

Pcell poss. nup. Collegii Sci. Stephani Westm.

Terr. dmical de Cowden et Magiston in com.

pdic (Dors.) val. in

Firm. terr. dmical de Cowden cum.

2 acr. prat. jac. in le Warde cum

ptin. dd (dimiss) Johne Browne (et

assign. suis) p. inden. (p. tmio.

annor reddend. inde p. ann.)

40 0

Firm. terr. dmical. de Magiston cum

omibus suis) ptin. dd (pfat) Johne

Browne (et assign. suis) p. indentur.

(p. termino annor, reddend. inde p.

ann.)

66 8

---

 £5 6 8
 

---

At 22 yeres purchas £117 6s. 8d.

---

Memor.—there be no londs or tents. lieing in Cowden or  
Magiston aforsaid belonging to the said College other than  
are above specified.

---

Grant to Lord Clinton.

File 1515.

27 May 6 Edw. VI. 1552

Pcell possession. nup. Collegii Sci. Stephi.

Westm. in co. Midd.

Firm. unius mess. et unius cotagii cu

ptin. in Hide et Northover modo

vel nup. in tenur. Johis Bertlett

reddend. inde p. ann.

£1 2 0

---

Valuation not given.



Grant to William Earl of Pembroke.

File 1861.

13 April 7 Edw. VI. 1553

Pcella possession. nup. Collegii Sci Steph.  
Westm. in Middx.

Tria tent. cu eor ptinen. infra parochiam de  
Burton (Bradstock) in com. Dorset, valt.  
in

Firm. unius tenement. continen.  
15 acr. et dimid. terr. arrabil.  
et dimid. acr. prati in tenur.  
Willmi Gregorye reddend p.  
ann.

4 0

Firm. unius tenti cu ptinen. cont. 16  
acr. terr. arrabil. et pastur. et un  
acr. et dimid. prati in tenur.  
Johnis Pulham p. ann.

12 4

Firm. unius tenti continen. 41 acr.  
terr. arr. 5 acr. past. et uni acr.  
et dimid. prati in tenur. Johnis  
Walter p. ann.

17 0

---

£1 13 4

---

At 20 yeres purchas £33 6 8

---

Unm. tent. cu ptinen. jacen. in pochia de  
Frampton, valt. in

Firm. unius tenti continen. 30 acr  
terr. arrabil 4 acr. past. et uni  
acr. di. prati in tenur. Johnis  
Orchard p. ann.

£1 2 0

---

At 20 yeres purchas £22 0 0

---

Manerai. de Winterbourne Cayne, valt. in  
Redd. assis. omium. cons'tinm. tenen. ibm p.  
ann. solvend. ad quatuor anni  
termin. principales p. equalis  
porcoes

£5 0 0

---

At 20 yeres purchas £100 0 0

---

Grant to Thomas Reve and George Cotton.

File 1901.

20 Feb. 7 Edw. VI. 1553

Pcell possession. nup. Collegii Sci Stephi Westm.

Alfercomb\* (co. Dorset) valt. in

Firm. 2 mess. 2½ plac. et I cotag. terr.

cu ptinen. in Alfercombe modo vel

nuper in tenur. Johis Lyttill senior

p. tmio vite p ann.

£2 10 0

At 24 yeres purchas £60 0 0

Grant to Thomas Reve and Giles Isham.

File 2222.

15 July 2 Mary 1554

Pcella possession. nuper Collegii Sci Stephen.

Westm.

Un. tent. cum suis ptinen. in Frampton, valt. in

Firm. unius tenementi continen. 20

acr. terr. arrabil. et unius acr.

prati pdco tent. ptinen. nuper

Hawards et modo in tenura Johis

Browne et Edithe fil. ss. reddend.

p. ann.

12 4

At 24 yeres purchas £14 0 0

Memor. that the pmisses are not letten to any person or psons in fee tayle for term of lif or lyves or during the Quenes pleasure to thauditors knowledge and that the same is not pcell of any of her Highnes Honors castles pkes forests or chaces nor of the lands de antiqua corona Regis Anglie' nor of the Duchies of Lanc. and Cornwall or therldome of Chester ne do adjoine to any of her Maties castells, manors palacies or mancions res'ued for thacesse of her Highnes.

Grant to Peter Johnson.

File 2400.

1 Dec. I. Eliz. 1558

Pcell. possess. nup. Collegii Sci. Steph. Westm.

Maneria de Bincombe valt. in

\* I cannot identify this place in Dorset. ? Ilfracombe, Devon.

Redd. un. custom. tenement. ibm p.			
ann.	15	0	0
Perquis. cur. ibm coibz. annis		3	4
	<hr/>		
	£15	3	4
	<hr/>		
At 20 yeres purchas	£303	6	8
	<hr/>		

Lease to Katherine Orchard, widow, and to Robert and John her sons for term of their lives.

File 31, No. 34.

10 Feb. 5 Eliz. 1563

Pcell. possession. nup. Colleg. Sci. Steph. Westm.

Pcell. manerm de Frampton val. in

Reddit. unius tent. ; unius claus. pastur.  
 voc. le "backside" cont. un.  
 acr. ; unius claus. cont. duas acr. ;  
 unius claus. pastur. voc. "Marle"  
 cont. duas acr. ; 2 acras et di.  
 pti. jacen. in prato occident. ; 1  
 acr. et di. prati jacen. in campo  
 orient. ; 23 acr. terr. arr. et  
 pastur. ; 9 gross catall. et 92 ovm.  
 cu. ptin. sic dimiss. Elinor Allen p.  
 cop. cur. dat. 6 die Novemb.  
 anno Rs. H. VII (sic) 13<sup>o</sup> hend.  
 sibi duran. viduetat. s. reddend.  
 inde cu. 2s. 4d. p. cert. pecuniis  
 voc. "Churcheytes" p. ann.

1 4 0

---

Fine at 4 yeres rent £4 16 0

---

The said tents. is pcell of the customarie tents. of the said manor of Frampton and the said manor is of the yerlie value of £83.

Lease to Katherine Strowde, Ellynour Strowde and Mary Strowde for their three lives successively.

File 32, No. 26.

16 Aug. 29 Eliz. 1586

Pcell nuper Collegii Sci. Stephi. Westm. Pcell.  
 maner de Burton valt. in

Firm. unius tent. cu ptin. ac unius  
 molend. aquatic. ibm. ac unius  
 cotag. cu. eor. ptin. in Burton pd.

sic. dimiss. Rico. Jolyf, Katherne  
 Cleves et Elz Cleves fil. Johnis  
 Cleves p. tmio vite eor. successive  
 p. cop. dat. 14 die Marcii anno regni  
 Dne. nre Eliz. Reg. nunc. 11,  
 reddend. inde p. ann., viz.,

p. pd. tent.	13	4
et p. mollend.	1	6 8
et p. pd. cotag.		3
	<hr/>	
	£2	0 3
	<hr/>	

Fine rated at 2 yeres rent.

---

### Fraternity of the Blessed Mary in Axminster, Devon.

Not on the Chantry Roll.

Grant to Richard Randall.

Vol. 68, 10. File 1896. 8 July 2 Edw. VI. 1548

Pcella possession. Fraternitate Bte Marie in  
 Exmester, Devon (Axminster in Port-  
 folio of Surveys 22—67).

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### WIKE REGIS.

Thomas Gibons tenet 28 ac. terr. arrab. et  
 pastur. in Wike Regis et reddit. inde p. ann. 1 1 0

### PORTLAND.

Robtus Browne sen. tenet diver. terr. cont.  
 24 ac. terr. pcell. dei. Fraternitate unacum  
 53s. 4d. in pecu. nōie stauri (reddend) p. ann.  
 tam pro predict. terr. quam pro. predict  
 53s. 4d. in pecu. nōi stauri 19 4

---

2 0 4

Repris.

Reddit. resolut. Dne Regin. pro  
 terr. in tenura Thom.  
 Gibons ad maner. de Wike  
 R. viz. p. qdlit acr. (7s.  
 crossed out) 3 6

Redd. resolut. Regin. pro terr in tenur. Robti Browne sen. ad maner de Portland viz., pro qualt. acr (6s. crossed out)	3 0	
	<hr/>	6 6
		<hr/>
		£1 13 10
		<hr/>
At 27 yeres purchas	£45 13 6	
	<hr/>	

**Parish of Christchurch. Free Chapel of Hinton Admiral,  
Hants.**

Chantry Roll 52 No. 53	Income	£3 3 4
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Grant to John Churchill and William Samwich.

Vol. 258, 47. File 1501. 9 Feb. 3 Edw. VI. 1549

Terr. et tent. ptin Liba Capella de Hinton Am'all  
als dict. Am'el Hinton in co. Southampton  
val. in

Firm. unius horrei cum omibz terr.  
tent. prat. pascuas et pastur. et  
cõüs cum suis ptin. scit. et exist.  
in Forston et Charminster in com.  
Dors. dicto horreio ptin. et spect.  
qui omnia et singla nup. fuer. in  
tenur. sive occupac. Robti Hunt p.  
termio vite sue ac modo dimiss.  
Henr. Hunt fil. pdei Robti p. ind.  
dat. 5 die Maii anno R. H. VIII.  
28 Hend. et ten pdict. horrem,  
terr. ten. prat. pasc. pastur. et  
cõiis cum suis ptin. pfato Henr.  
et primogenito sive primogenite  
s. p. trmio vite eor. et alterios eor.  
diutius vivent successive ; Redd.  
inde annuatim gardian. dict.  
Capelle et success. suis 63s. 4d. ad  
fest. Sci. Michis Arch. singlis  
annis solvend. Et pdeus Henr.  
et pmogenito sive pmgenta s.

omnia pdem horreu. terr. et tent.  
 cum s, ptin. in omibz. bene et suffic.  
 rep'abunt et sust'abunt durante  
 tm. pdc. Acetiam solvend. seu  
 solui facient capitulo Dno feod.  
 illius 2s. p. ann. p. omibz redd.  
 sect. et demant. durant. termio  
 suo pdco put in dei ind. plenius  
 continetur

£3 3 4

---

At 22 yeres pchas £69 13 4

---

Memor. that the said fermor paid for an Incombe at the sealing of the said Indenture 10s. more than the old accustomed rent was in time past ; And the woods upon the same growing are not able to maintain the fences of the pmisses.

There be no lands nor tents to the said Frechapel then is above expressed to my knowledge.

Joh. Bonde deput. Johnis Hannam.

---

### Hospital of St. Johns, Bridgwater, Somerset.

Not on the Chantry Roll.

Grant to John Wright and Thomas Holmes.

File 2102.

17 March 7 Edw. VI. 1553

Pcella possession. nup. Prioratus sive Hospitlis

Sci Johnis in Bridgwater in com. Som.

Birdeporte val. in

Redd. unius tent. cum suis ptin in  
 tenur. Johnis Toker scituat. in  
 Birteport pdict. reddend. inde p.  
 ann. ad fest. ibm usual. equis:  
 pconibz

6 3½

---

At 15 yeres pchas £4 14 4½

---

Memor. that the premises is not pcell of any manor nor lieth nere any his Graces pks, forests, or chases or nere any hous res'ued by a keeper for the accesse of his Highness by the distaunce of 8 miles nor that there is no land belonging to the said tenement.



**Chantry of Compton Paunceford, Somerset.**

Not on the Chantry Roll.

Grant to John Whitehouse and John Baylie.

Vol. 68, 346. File 2075. 30 June 2 Edw. VI. 1548

Cantaria de Compton Paunceford co. Som.  
infra eccliam pochaim ibm val. in

Reddit. unius tent. cu suis ptin. in  
Shaston in com. Dorsett in occupac.

Thome Batte p. annum

10 0

Reddit. 4 gardinor. et omne pve pcæ  
tre in Shafton pd. dict. Cant. ptin  
d'uis pson ibm sepali d'miss. p.  
ann.

7 0

---

17 0

---

At 16 yeres pchas £13 12 0

---

**Sir Robert and Lady Margaret Hungerford's Chantry in the Cathedral at Salisbury, Wiltshire.**

Chantry Roll 58, No. 6 and 59, No. 1.

The foundation and endowment of this Chantry are so well described in the Chantry Roll and also in Hutchins' Vol. IV., 175, et seq. that further reference seems unnecessary here.

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**Forward's Chantry in Mere, Wiltshire.**

Chantry Roll 58, 21

Income

18 0

---

Grant to Sir John Thynne, Knt. and Lawrence Hide.

Vol. 68, 132

7 June 2 Edw. VI. 1548

Terr. et possess. ptin. Cantar. in Mere in com.

Wilts voc. Forwards Chaunterye, viz.

Motcombe in co. Dors. valet in

Reddit. sive firm. 4 claus pastur.

insimul jacens in Motcombe

predict. voc. Forwards als North  
 Hand cont. p. estim. in tot. 8 acr.  
 sic dimiss. Willo Browne, Alicie ux.  
 ejus et Pho. fil. eor. dim. p. inden.  
 dat. 4 die Mcii anno 34 Rx.  
 Henr. VIII pro term. vite eor. p.  
 ann.

18 0

At 21 years purchas £18 18 0

---

### Bartley's Chantry in Mere, Co. Wilts.

Not on the Chantry Roll.

Grant to Sir John Thynne, Knt. and Lawrence Hide.

Vol. 68, 135

7 June 2 Edw. VI. 1548

Cantar. fundat. infra Eccliam poch. de Mere in  
 com. Wiltes voc. Barteleys Chaunterie.

Gillingham in com. Dors. valet in

Redd. 4 claus. pastur. jacen. infra poch.  
 de Gillingham voc. Sadleborne  
 cont. p. estim. 13 ac. dimiss.  
 Thome Swynerton, Elene ux.  
 ejus et Johne fil. eor. pro termio  
 vite eor. p. ann.

14 0

At 21 yeres purchas £14 4 0

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### *Section H.*

### FOUNDATION OF SCHOOLS.

#### Sherborne Free Grammar School.

Augmentation Office. Foundations of Schools.

Edward VI. Roll No. 13.

Lands appointed by the Kings Maiestie for a Free Grammer  
 Scole in the Town of Shirborne in the Countie of Dors. 24  
 (29 ?) March 4 Edw. VI. 1550.

Cantaria de Martocke in Com. Soms. valt. in

Reddit. unius messuag. cu. suis ptin. in Bradforde Brand et Barnardes- ley infra pochiam de Wymborne in Com. Dors pdict. sic dimiss. Waltero Godderde p. Indenturam p. termio annor. reddend. inde p. ann.	76	8
Reddit. unius tent. cu. suis ptinen. ibm in tenura pdict. Walteri Godderde p. ann.	70	0
Reddit. cert. terr. arrabil. ibm in tenura Thome Prior p. ann.	8	0
Reddit. unius pastur. ibm modo vel nuper in tenura Nichi Cocks p. ann.	7	2
Reddit. 2 Claus et 2 acr. terr. arrabil. ibm modo vel nuper in tenura Johnis Godderde p. ann.	11	8
Reddit. unius tent. sive burgagii ibm modo vel nup. in tenura Johnis Hannham p. ann.	9	8
Reddit. unius tent. sive burgagii ibm modo vel nuper in tenura Johnis Davy p. ann.	18	8
Reddit. unius tent. vel burgagii ibm cu. ptin modo vel nup. in tenura Rici Russell p. ann.	31	4
Reddit. unius tent. sive burgag. cu. ptin ibm modo vel nup. in tenura Phi Barons p. ann.	41	10
Reddit. unius tent. vel. Burgag. ibm. cu. ptin modo vel nuper in tenura Johnis Abbotte p. ann.	10	0
Reddit. dom. mancon. Cantie pdce in ten. . . . p. ann.		4
	<hr/>	
	£14	5 4

Repris in

Reddit. resolut Georgio Antyll p. libo reddit. p. ann.	6	13	4
Reddit. resolut Edwardo Twynho p. libo reddit. p. ann.	5	0	6 18 4
	<hr/>		
Valt. clare ult. repris pd. p. ann.	£7	7	0

Memor. that all the lands belonging to the Chaunterie of Martock abouesaid lyeth in the countie of Dors except the Chaunterie house of the yerely value of 4d. as is aboue menconed And that ther is no other lands belonging to the said Chauntry then is aboue menconed.

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Cantaria See Katherine infra eccliam pochialem  
de Gillingham in com Dors. valt. in

Reddit. dom. mansion cantie pdce in tenur. sive occupacon. (blank) p. ann.	2 0
Reddit. unius claus pastur. in Gilling- ham dimiss. Georgio Dirdo p. copiam reddend. inde p. ann.	13 4
Reddit. duor. claus pti ibm sic dimiss. Waltero Hendbury p. copiam reddend. inde p. ann.	16 0
Reddit. dvis terri jacen. jux. Sylton sic dimiss. Willmo Willoughby p. inden. reddend. inde p. ann.	10 0
Reddit. unius cotagii cu. dvis terr. in Milton sic dimiss. Willms Butt p. copiam reddend. inde p. ann.	10 0
Reddit. unius pec. pati in Combermede in ten. Willmi Fryth sic sibi dim. p. copiam sic reddend. inde p. ann.	8 0
Reddit. unius pec. pati in Gillingham modo vel nup. in tenura Rici Fryth p. ann.	8 0
Reddit. unius pec. pati in Combermede modo in tenura Thome Nicholls et Augustini Cuffe sic eisdem dimiss. p. copiam reddend. inde p. ann.	7 0
Reddit. unius cotag. in Gillingham modo in ten. Edwardi Coke p. ann.	5 0
Reddit. unius pec. pati in Comber mede modo vel nup. in tenur. Johnis Chettle p. ann.	6 0
Reddit. dvis terr. arrabil in Gillingham in ten. Johnis Butt sic sibi dim. p. copiam reddend. ind p. ann.	6 0

Reddit. duar. pcell. pati in Combermede modo vel nup. in ten. Auncii Casse sic sibi dim. p. copiam reddend. inde p. ann.	6 8
Reddit. unius pcell pati ibm modo vel nup. in tenur. Willmi Knaplocke sic sibi dim. p. copiam reddend. inde p. ann.	6 0
Reddit. unius Berton in Gillingham modo vel nup. in tenura Rici Fryth sic sibi dimiss. p. copiam reddend. unde p. ann.	2 4
Reddit. unius pec. pati juxta Combermede modo vel nup. in tenura Robti Macham reddend. inde p. ann.	2 0
Reddit. unius pec. pati in Combermede in tenura Cecilie Lambte sic sibi dim. p. copiam reddend. inde p. ann.	2 8
Reddit. unius cotagii in Gillingham modo vel nup. in ten. Willmi Gilberde reddend. inde p. ann.	5 0
Reddit. unius cotagii ibm modo vel nup. in tenura Johnis Clyve sic sibi dim. p. indent. reddend. inde p. ann.	7 0
Reddit. unius acr. terr. ibm modo vel nup. in ten. Willmi Haskett reddend. inde p. ann.	1 4
Reddit. unius horrei ibm modo vel nup. in tenura Robti Macham sic sibi dim. p. indent. reddend. inde p. ann.	1 4
Reddit. unius claus pastur. jux. Cantiam ibm modo vel nup. in ten. Willmi Knaplocke sic sibi dim. p. indent. reddend. inde p. ann.	8 0
	<hr/>
	£6 13 8
	<hr/>

(The total is given as £6 13 4)

\* Cantaria in Lychett Matrauers vocat Gybbons  
Chauntrie in Com. Dors pd. valt. in

Reddit. sive firm. omi claus. trr.  
tentor. prat. pasc. et pastur. cum  
suis ptinen in Lychett Matrau's  
pdict. et Sturminster Marshall in  
com. Dors. dce Cantie ptinen. sic  
dimiss. Thome Trencherde mil. p.  
termio 21 annor. p. indentur. dat  
6to die Maii anno regni nup. Rs  
Henrici VIII. 35to reddend. inde  
p. ann.

£2 0 0

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† Liba Capella de Thornton infra p'ochiam de  
Marnehull in dco com. Dors. valt. in

Reddit. sive firm. unius claus. pastur.  
cum 3 acr. et di. pati ibm in tenura  
Johnis Rake sic sibi dim. p. indent.  
reddend. inde p. ann.

34 0

Reddit. sive firm. 20 acr. terr. arrabil  
ibm in tenura Robti Branker sic  
sibi dimiss. p. indent. reddend.  
inde p. ann.

20 0

£2 14 0

---

Memor. that ther is no other lands belonging to the Chauntries in Gillingham and Lichett Matravers or the Fre Chappell of Thorneton in the pishe of Marnehull then is above declared.

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The Chantry of St. Katherine in the parish Church of  
Ilminster, co. Somerset.

Trigint. acr. terr. in pochia de Symondesborowe  
in com. Dors pcell Cant. See Katherine ex  
fundac. Johnis Wadham in ecclia pochial  
de Ilmynster in com. Soms. valt. in

Reddit. sive firm. 30 acr. terr. arribil et  
pat. in pochia. de Symondsborowe  
in pdco com. Dors modo vel. nup.  
in tenura Willmi Hunsehill p. ann.

40 0

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Repris in		
Reddit. resolut Georgio Broke mil.		
dno Cobham p. uno chimino sive		
una via hend. ad terr. pd. in		
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Ex. p. me Henrici Leke, Deput. Audit.

29 die Marcii anno E. VI. quarto. The Kinges maiestie by thadvise of his privy Counsaill is pleased and contented that a free Grammer Schole shalbe erected and established in Shirbone in the Countie of Dors. Landes to the yerely value of 20 li. to be geven and assured by his highness to the mayntenennce thereof, And that there shalbe a Corporacon of 20 of the Inhabytants of the Towne and Parishe of Shirbone aforesaid to be inhabled to have ppetuall succession as Gouvernours of the possessions revenues and goodes of the same scoole, and to have powre to receyve the lands to be appoynted for the said scoole goods and gouvernnce thereof. Wherefore there must be a bill therof devysed accordingly, and a graunte to be made of the lands aboue rehersed wth the Issues and profitss therof from the Annunciacion of our Lady last to the Gouvernours of the possessions revenues and goodes of the said Scoole and to their Successours wth a Licence also that they may take and receyve by way of purchase or gifte other landes and heredytaments hereafter to the yerely value of £20.

From the foregoing document it will be seen that the following Chantry Lands were allocated to the foundation of Sherborne Grammar School, viz. :—

(1) The lands belonging to a Chantry in Martock, co. Somerset, which lands were all in the county of Dorset, amounting to, nett	7 7 0
(2) The lands belonging to the Chantry of St. Katherine in Gillingham, nett	6 0 0
(2) The lands belonging to Gibbons Chantry in Lytchet Maltravers, nett	2 0 0
(4) The lands of the Free Chapel of Thorneton in Marnhull, nett	2 14 0
(5) Lands in Symondsbury, part of the Chantry of St. Katherine in the Church of Ilminster, co. Somerset, nett	1 19 0
	<hr/>
	£20 0 0
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The Charter is given in full in Hutchins Vol. IV. 292, but the details of the lands, &c., are not given there. Further information about the School will be found in Vol. IV., 284.

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**The Grammar School in Netherbury, Lands in Swanwich for the Maintenance of the Sea Walls and the Grammar School in Wimborne Minster.**

Augmentation Office, Foundations of Schools. Edward VI.  
Roll No. 13. No. 23

20 July 2 Edw. VI. 1548

Wee for Walter Myldway knight and Robert Keylwey esquier Comysioners appoynted by the Kinges Maiesties Comysson under the greate seale of England bering date the XXth daie of June last past touching order to be taken for the contynuaunce and mayntenance of Scholes and preachers and of priests and of Curates of necessitie for serving of Cures and Mynystracon of Sacraments and for money and other things to be continued and paid to the poore and for dyverse other things appoynted to be done and executed by vertue of the same Comysion.

To the Auditor and Receyvour of the revenues of the Courte of Thaugmentacons and revenues of the Kings Maiesties Crowne in the Countie of Dors and to either of them greeting.

For as moche as it apperith by the certificats of the pticler surveys of lands of the said Courte in the said

Countie that a Grammer Schole hath been contynuallie kept in Netherbury (Chantry Roll 40 (57) in the said Countie wt the revenues of the late Chauntrie of Netherbury And that the Scolemaster hath had for his stipende and wages yerelie Cvis viii*d* which Scole is very mete and necessarie to be contynued And that xs x*id* yerelie hath been paid out of certeyn lands wthin the parishe of Sanwyche (Chantry Roll 90) in the said Countie to the mayntenence of See bankes there And that a Fre Grammer Scole hath been kept in Wymborne (Chantry Roll 28, 106) in the said Countie and that the Scolemaster there hath had for his stipende and wags yerely xli iis x*id*, wch Scole is very mete and necessarie to be contynued And that it is nedefull and necessarie to have foure Curates for serving of the Cures in the Church of Wymbone and in three Chapells belonging to the same being farre distant from the thens.

We therefore the said Comysshionars by vertue and auctoritie of the said Comysshion have assigned and appoynted that the said Grammer Scole in Netherbury aforesaid shall contynue And that Martyne Smythe Scolemaster there shall have and enjoye the rome of Scolemaster there and shall have for his wages yerelie Cvis viii*d* And that the said xs. x*id* shalbe paid yerelie to the maynetenanncce of the Sea Bankes in Sanwiche aforesaid as heretofore it hath been accustomed. And that the said Gramer Scole in Wymborne aforesaid shall contynue And that the Scolemaster there shall have for his stipende and wages yerelie xli iis x*id*. And that Joh Dooe (?) late Vicar of the first prebende in 'he said Colledge of Wymborne, John Clerke late Vicar of the second prebende in the same Col edge, Walter Mathewe late Vicar of the thirde prebende in the same College and John Goddyng late Vicar of the fourth prebende in the same Colledge shalbe Curates of the parishe Church of Wymborne aforesaid and of the three Chapells annexed and belonging to the same and that evy of the same Curates shall have wages yerelie xlii xiiis iii*id*.

And we the said Comysshioners on the Kings Maiesties behalf by vertue of the said Comysshion do require you the said Receyvor that of suche the Kings money and revenues as from tyme to tyme shalbe and remayne in your hands ye do content and paie yerelie from Ester last furthwarde the said severall somes of money before mencōned to the psones before rehersed and to suche other psone and psones as shall have and enjoye the romes and places of the same psones to be paid wekely

or quarterly or otherwise as necessitie shal require untill suche tyme as further or other order shalbe taken for the same. And this warraunte shalbe to you the said Receyvour and Audytor sufficient discharge for the payment and allowance of the same accordinglye.

Youen the xxth daie of Julye in the seconde yere of the reigne of our souereign lorde Edwarde the Sixt by the grace of God King of England Fraunce and Ireland defendor of the faith and of the Church of Englande and also of Ireland in eairth the supreme hedd.

WA. MILDMAY.

ROBT. KEYLWEY.

From the foregoing document it will be seen that the income belonging to the Chantry founded by Thomas Powlett, at Netherbury (see Chantry Roll No. 40, 57) was given by Edward VI. to the Free Grammar School in that town. Unfortunately, however, no details are given; but it would seem that the amount £5 6s. 8d. was paid by the Paulett family for an obit, and there may have been no lands specifically applied for the purpose. More as to this school will be found in Hutchins, Vol. II., 108.

The lands from which 10s. 11d. were yearly paid for maintaining the sea banks at Swanwich (Chantry Roll No. 90) also are not enumerated, but the rent was to be continued to be used for the purpose stated. Hutchins does not seem to mention this endowment.

The property of the Chantry founded by Margaret, Countess of Richmond and Derby (Chantry Roll No. 28, 106) was granted to the Free School in Wimborne Minster, but the details are not given. Hutchins gives a lengthy account of this School in Vol. III. 191, and quotes in full on p. 270 the deed or Charter dated 12 March 2 Henry VIII. 1511, and on p. 273A the Letter of Attorney to take livery and seisin, 21 May 3 Henry VIII., 1511, of certain lands specified in Somerset. These may very likely be the lands from which the income of £11 2s. 0½d. came.



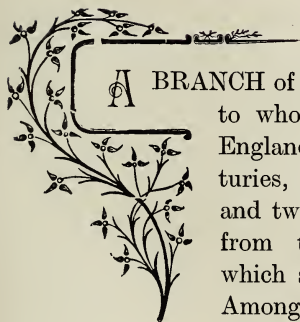
## The Normans in Dorset.

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By the Rev. C. W. H. DICKER.

*(Read March 2nd, 1910.)*

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A BRANCH of that wonderful race of North-men, to whom the world owes the making of England in the seventh and eighth centuries, and its re-making in the eleventh and twelfth, wrested about the year 918 from the Frankish king the province which still bears their name, Normandy. Amongst the qualities which distinguished that common stock whence English and Normans descended, were a remarkable capacity for acquiring and assimilating new forms of civilisation, and also the power of impressing their national characteristics upon races with which they came into contact.

These qualities are strikingly illustrated by the divergent lines of development which followed their conquests respectively in Britain and France. The English quickly adopted the Christian religion; but were not tempted to adopt the degenerate forms of town-life of the Welsh, and established



their own methods of government and husbandry. The Normans, on the other hand, soon learnt the language of the people they had conquered; took to dwelling in towns, applied themselves to Franco-Roman learning, and at last became the greatest builders of the age.

The re-uniting of these two vigorous streams of humanity—attended though it undoubtedly was by the most painful social convulsions—has proved in the long run the best thing that could have happened to England.

Our task to-day is to survey briefly, with the aid of such sources of information as are available, the condition of things which existed in this country after Norman supremacy had become an accomplished fact; to try and picture, in our minds, the social position of the Dorset folk at that period; and to speak of some relics that still remain to us of Norman doings. During the reign of the Conqueror, and the early part of the twelfth century, history is almost silent in regard to Dorset. We know of King William's march upon Exeter, but practically nothing more.

There is, however, a source whence a vast amount of information may be drawn concerning the land and the people in the later years of his reign—namely, the Domesday Survey of 1085; and upon this I have to rely for my principal data in regard to Dorset. I must first make one or two general remarks. The Norman, to quote an authority in *Enc. Brit.*, “was not only a born soldier, but also a born lawyer.” And William, having won his rights by the sword, defended them, and enforced them by an appeal to the Law of England—with (as he said) certain additions he made for the benefit of the English. In the legal frame-work inherited from the English kings, he found a machinery effective for his purposes.

The Norman king assumed the position of Edward's lawful successor; all that had been done by Harold was a series of mutinous and invalid acts which it was his duty, as a law-abiding monarch, to correct and punish. Accordingly every man who had fought against him at Hastings was



adjudged unworthy of holding any English land. England, in fact, had disgraced itself ; for some hundred years, Englishmen were disqualified from holding any position of authority or honour in Church or State.

The wholesale dispossession of the English thanes cleared the way for the introduction of the new system of tenure, by virtue of which every acre of land in the island was held as a grant from the King, on condition of service to the Crown. The barons (as the large holders now began to be called) were thus kept from opportunities of becoming independent ; and another check was imposed upon them by granting them estates separated from one another by great distances, which made it impossible for any lord to secure a preponderating local influence that could endanger the Royal prerogative.

With the help of Mr. Eyton's valuable book on Domesday, we are able to judge very fairly of the effects of the Conquest in Dorset. The estates anciently belonging to King Edward, including Portland, Bere Regis, Whitchurch Canonicorum, Wimborne, Shapwick, Dorchester, Fordington, Preston and Sutton, Gillingham, Pimperne, Winfrith, and others, of course were claimed by the new King ; these lands amounted to nearly 70,000 acres. King William also held by escheat the lands formerly belonging to Harold as Earl of Dorset ; to Queen Matilda, and to Goda, Countess of Boulogne, King Edward's sister—some 38,000 acres.

Next we come to what are commonly spoken of as " Church lands," the long list of manors bestowed in time past upon Bishoprics and monastic communities. These occupied more than one-third of the whole area of Dorset, and were not alienated from their religious dedication, but were re-assigned by King William, with some changes. One of these changes is typical : Sherborne, with manorial rights over some 20 000 acres, was transferred to the bishopric of Sarum, under the auspices of the business-like, as well as saintly, Bishop Osmund, who was one of the commissioners who superintended the Domesday Survey. William got rid of all the English bishops

and abbots (with one exception) during his reign, and the Normanised Church was given a very important part in the politics of the period. The ecclesiastical leaders brought to England by the Norman kings were men of remarkable and varied ability; and although some signal instances of "diamond cut diamond" will be remembered, on the whole, the imported bishops and abbots proved valuable allies in the enforcing of the new order of things. Many monastic properties, parochial tithes, and a number of escheated manors were given for the endowment of foreign establishments in Normandy—a course largely followed for some centuries afterwards.\*

We may now glance at the list of fiefs held by tenants-in-chief from the Crown, under the new obligations of military service. At the time of the Survey these numbered about 43 Normans and 36 King's Thanes—Englishmen who had become "the King's Men." There were also 10 fiefs held in sergeantry, *i.e.*, for service other than military; thus Wimborne St. Giles was allotted to Harvey the Keeper of the Bedchamber; Fifehead Nevill and other estates to Waleran the huntsman, and a number of estates to Aiulfus the Royal Chamberlain. But I think our interest will mainly centre upon

The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune

which wrought such dire changes in the ranks of the gentry of our country side.

Of the old thanes' estates in this county, about a dozen were given back to the original holders of their sons. Milborne Stileham and an adjoining property were retained by the Swain family. Dodo (one of King Edward's thanes) was deprived of several extensive manors, but on becoming

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\* An interesting case is given in S. and D. Notes and Queries, 1909, p. 350 *et seq.*—The great tithes of Sturminster Marshall given to the Hospital at Pont Audemer.

“ King William’s man ” was granted three small estates at Hampreston, Wimborne, and Great Toller. Two of the old landholders, Edwin and Uluric, appear to have obtained commissions as huntsmen to King William, accompanied by grants of land. The principal landowners who suffered confiscation, besides Harold, were Brictric,\* who owned over 15,000 acres at Evershot, Frome St. Quintin, Cranborne and Ashmore ; Saul, of Hampreston ; Aluric of Tarrant Gunville and other places ; and Ulviet, of Upsydling. A number of thanes also fall under this category, whose names are not specified in the Survey.

The largest Norman grantee of the escheated lands in Dorset was the Earl of Mortain, whose share of the county must have exceeded 46,000 acres. His manors included a large part of the Cerne valley, Martinstown, parts of the north-eastern Winterborne, of Broadwey and Upwey, Child Ockford, and many small estates scattered about the county. Our second largest landholder in 1085 was a wealthy lady, the widow of a baron, who bore the suggestive name of Hugh Fitz-Grip. She held, in all, 27,000 acres. In regard to these vast estates, we must remember that they did not bring in any very great income to the tenant-in-chief, who let the various manors to other men for knight’s service, and reaped little benefit for himself beyond the produce of the demesne lands, which were worked for him by the unpaid (but by no means excessive) labour of villeins and ceorls.

It is very likely that the great revolution did not make much difference to the dwellers in many villages. The changes chiefly affected the great nobles and thanes, who held directly from the King and perhaps rarely or never visited their estates in the county. Although the Survey does not give the names of all the *mesne* tenants who held under them, it is certain that a large proportion of them were English,

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\* This is the Domesday spelling of the name. Its English form is Brihtric.

and were left in undisturbed possession. It is also likely that many of the old landowners lived on as occupiers of the ground that formerly belonged to them. As for the lower classes of villeins and ceorls, the main stream of contemporary politics hardly touched them at all. If they had to work, or if they had to fight, the question of who was in command made little or no difference to them.

Indeed, the political changes were not so much the real source of trouble as the general atmosphere of demoralisation and lawlessness which followed the flood of truculent foreigners who were scouring the country. In a few years the Normans had built 1,200 castles—some 30 to each county; a large proportion of these were veritable hornets' nests, garrisoned by ruthless partisans of King William, who, whilst they exacted his service and that of their lords, did not scruple to help themselves to anything they wanted, and missed no opportunity of bringing home to Englishmen the fact of their subjection. The "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle" and the writings of Ordericus Vitalis draw us pictures which approach in horrid detail the recent atrocities perpetrated in Macedonia and the Eastern Levant.

These tribulations were not long in coming to Dorset. In 1068 the people of the West had organised a plan of resistance to the encroachments of the foreign government. "The smaller towns of Devonshire and Dorset entered into a league with the capital" (Freeman). William at once marched to Exeter, calling out his newly-enlisted English militia from the conquered shires, and after his custom made a progress of terror westwards, "harrying frightfully the towns of Dorset" as he went.\*

At that time four towns were recognised as Royal boroughs in the county—Dorchester, which in King Edward's time contained 172 houses—before 1085, 100 of them lay in ruins; Bridport, which by that date had lost 20 houses out of 120;

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\* "William the Conqueror," p. 113.

Wareham, whose 285 houses had been reduced to 135 ; and Shaftesbury, with 80 destroyed out of the 257 it formerly boasted. When we remember the free and traditional uses of fire in the hands of ancient soldiery, there is nothing surprising in these records. And once down, the houses were not likely to be built again. I have seen towns in Ireland, whose large proportion of houses, empty and ruinous, tells tales of a decaying and dwindling population. Much worse was it in England at the end of the 11th Century.

Hallam \* gives the following statistics :—

In Edward's time.				In Domesday.	
York	..	..	1,607 inhabited houses	..	967
Oxford	..	..	721	..	243
Derby	..	..	293	..	103
Chester	..	..	487	..	205

It is interesting to note the small size of the Norman towns, which in those days were simply settlements of traders—headquarters whence chapmen set out with packhorses or sumpter mules to do business with the outlying manor houses and villages ; and to which the villagers from the surrounding country resorted on market days. Dorchester then was about the size of Maiden Newton to-day. The population of the whole county at the census of 1901 was 202,962 ; of which number we may say (in round figures) 118,000 dwelt in towns of over 2,000 people. Now if we compare this with the Dorset of Domesday, I think we may estimate that there are now 2,000 per cent. more town dwellers than then, whilst the increase of the rural population only amounts to 250 per cent. If we go back half a century earlier (King Edward's time), it is probable that there were then as many people in the Dorset villages as there are at the present time.

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\* "Middle Ages," viii., Pt. 2.



I have referred to the condition of general disturbance, injustice and violence, which certainly prevailed to some degree through the reigns of the Williams, Henry I., and Stephen. But there is another side to the picture, which shows that these evils were intermittent and not universal. In Dorset there is no record of any special troubles from the time of Domesday onwards; on the contrary, there are indications that our people soon began to revive under the new *regime* both in regard to numbers and material prosperity. This, I think you will agree, is a fair inference from the ecclesiastical and architectural history of the period, some facts of which I will now ask you to consider.

With the twelfth century, it is evident that Dorset came into the full impetus of Norman building; not that we can point to many Norman churches or castles, but there is abundant proof that they were built. In addition to the more important remains of which I may have to speak, a large number of Baptismal Fonts\*, of Norman doorways in buildings of later date, and fragments of Romanesque masonry built into walls throughout the county, all bear witness that the wave of building zeal inaugurated by the invaders was widely manifest in Dorset.

What became of all those Norman buildings? Why, in sleepy Sussex, should it be possible to visit a dozen Norman churches in an afternoon, and yet so hard to find even one or two between Purbeck and the Vale of Blackmoor? The reason, I think, lies in the fact that Wessex was never wanting in a supply of go-ahead people. No province appears to have profited more by the development of the wool-growing

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\* The following list is doubtless incomplete:—Affpiddle, Askerswell, Bincombe, Bere Regis, Broadwindsor, Chaldon Herring, Chelborough, Chickerell, Gillingham, Gussage All Saints, Loders, Mappowder, Marnhull, Milborne St. Andrew, Nether Cerne, North Porton, Pimperne, Portisham, Preston, Pulham, Pucknoll, Sydling, Toller Fratrum, Toner's Piddle, Wareham, Warmwell, Whitcombe, Winterborne Abbas, Martinstown, Whitechurch Canonicorum.



industry in the middle ages ; and this must have enriched the landowners and monasteries to such a degree, and led to such an increase of population, that the old Romanesque buildings were found to be too small, as well as out of keeping with the magnificent ideas and showy fashions of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. So down came the old naves of Milton and Sherborne, Cerne and Abbotsbury, Maiden Newton and Dorchester, to make room for bigger and finer things.

But to return to Norman times. There are no figures in English history better known to us than the great ecclesiastics of the days of the Williams, Henrys, and Stephen ; Lanfranc, Anselm, Gundulf, Walkelin, St. Osmund. And amongst the foremost of them in point of greatness (if not of saintliness), ranks our Bishop Roger of Caen, Bishop of Sarum and Abbot of Sherborne—brought to Royal favour (so a malicious but possibly true story goes) by the rapidity with which he said Mass—who certainly supplied the necessary stimulus to the building operations in this county and diocese. Not content with the rebuilding of his Cathedral Church, he appears to have walled in the whole city on the hill. He built the castle at Sherborne, another at Devizes. Sherborne Abbey Church gives us a good sample of his style. How Bishop Roger's work struck a contemporary may be seen in the pages of William of Malmesbury :—

He erected extensive buildings at vast cost, and with surpassing beauty ; the courses of stone being so exactly laid that the joint deceives the eye, and leads it to imagine that the whole wall is composed of a single block." And again, "with unrivalled magnificence he erected splendid mansions on all his estates ; in merely maintaining which his successors toil in vain."

With regard to Sherborne, we might wish that the Bishop had spared Aldhelm's venerable cathedral, of which nothing now remains but that humble doorway in the west front. But in such days of enthusiasm and hard work we cannot wonder that Bishop Roger, who had brought from Caen the

new chisel-worked masonry, should be impatient of the old rough walls he found here.

In Dorset, as elsewhere, the monastic and collegiate bodies took a leading part in the building operations of the time, although it is often a difficult problem to decide by whom churches were built, for documentary evidence is very scarce. Charminster being one of the Episcopal manors, we may perhaps attribute the present nave to Bishop Roger himself—the pointed arch having been introduced about seven years before his death in 1142.\*

A Romanesque church in the Bishop's manor of Alton Pancras, finally demolished in 1875, was probably Roger's work. Turning to the parishes owned by monasteries, we find evidence of the care of these bodies for providing places of worship for their tenants. Thus, the church at Iwerne Minster, belonging to the Abbey of Shaftesbury, had its fine Romanesque nave rebuilt. The church of Wimborne Minster, which place was given by King William I. to his chaplain Maurice, Bishop of London, also Dean of the College—owes its nave and tower to this period. "For love of" another chaplain, a monk of St. Wandrille, the same King bestowed the churches of our Lady at Wareham, of St. Wita at Whitechurch Canonicorum, and others, upon that Norman Abbey, which now happens to be the workshop of M. Maeterlinck. The walls of Wareham parish church are probably the original Norman work of Bishop Roger's time. At Whitechurch, building operations were commenced by its new owners, as testified by two bays of the nave and a Romanesque door still standing. In the year 1200, however, the parish was given back to Sarum, and the rebuilding shows a sudden transition to Early English.

St. Martin's at Wareham owes its building (perhaps of pre-Norman date) to the Abbots of Horton, who also in 1085

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\* Bere Regis Church shows some remarkably similar characteristics, but is probably a few years later in date.

owned an "ecclesiola" at Wimborne, now lost. To Milton Abbey Dorset is indebted for a church at Whitcombe, part of which still stands, and a little Norman building at its cell of Lyscombe (now desecrated). Remains of twelfth century work at Winterborne Monkton remind us of the time when its Priory belonged to the Benedictines of Cluny. The great monastery of Abbotsbury was annexed (as regards its tithes) by Bishop Roger, who wanted money to build his two castles with, and so its abbots were crippled for a time; but the Abbotsbury manor of Tolpuddle got a church built all the same, traces of which may still be seen in the existing fabric.

The greater number of Norman buildings in Dorset must, however, be attributed to benefactions on the part of the new landlords. For, despite the ever-recurring troubles to which England was subject, the Church had a powerful hold upon the hearts of the people, and a strong religious principle blended with the other elements which made the great Invasion a blessing in disguise.

### NORMAN ARCHITECTURE.

*Doors.*—The feature of Norman architecture which has most widely survived amongst us is the familiar Romanesque doorway—in older Norman work the two doorways on the north and south sides of the nave—an arrangement traceable at Maiden Newton, Studland, Worth, Frome Vauchurch, Cranborne, Tolpuddle, Dewlish, Monkton, Milton St. Catherine's, and Whitcombe. In a greater number of instances the old doorway is found on the south side; the famous porch\* of Bishop Roger's church at Sherborne will occur to many of your minds, and a very fine specimen of

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\* Norman porches are very rare. I only know of three in Dorset—Sherborne, Bloxworth, and Belchawell.

slightly later date is to be seen close at hand at St. Peter's in this town. The earliest Romanesque doors had within the arch a tympanum, or heavy lintel, decorated with sculpture or painting. Of this we also have a remarkable specimen at East Fordington, ascribed by Professor Parker to the second half of the twelfth century. A rather interesting, not to say puzzling, example is sketched amongst my illustrations to-day (Wynford Eagle). Another very curious specimen at Tarrant Rushton is figured in our recently published book of Proceedings (Vol. XXX., p. liii.).

*Capitals.*—The Norman capital is surmounted by an abacus having a square edge, and the lower member or "bell" is generally hewn into a "cushion" design, as at Sherborne, or "scolloped" by vertical rounded flutings. As time went on these were enriched at the angles by volutes (as at Piddletrenthide), or, as in the nave at Bere Regis, with heads or figures. At Winterborne Whitchurch there are some late Norman capitals carved with angels with outspread wings.

*Windows.*—At Studland and Worth Matravers the churches have some windows which may perhaps be regarded as a legacy from pre-Norman times. The windows of the period were small, and placed high up in the wall. Some very interesting ones are to be seen at Shillingstone.

Most of our twelfth century churches originally had towers, although we never see this feature at its best in England; you must go to the neighbourhood of Caen to see Norman towers. Our towers of this period were massive and of no great height, that of Wimborne being a typical example. Owing to the badness of the masonry, or insecure foundations, some of the early towers fell down within a few years of their erection, as Bishop Walkelin's did at Winchester in 1100. At Maiden Newton, Winterborne Whitchurch, and other places piers still exist which formerly supported Norman towers now defunct. At this period the tower, even in small churches like Studland and Iwerne Steepleton, stood between the nave and the chancel. It was crowned with a pyramidal stone

cap or stunted spire, springing from the corbel-table, which was especially characteristic of this style. The corbels were frequently carved with grotesque, and sometimes mythological emblems, representing extremely ancient traditions.

*Chancels.*—The Norman architects seem to have had an important share in the settling of the question of where the principal altar should stand. In their ground-plan the apse, formerly a small alcove behind the altar at the east or west end of the building, became permanently fixed at the east, and widened to the full breadth of the chancel. This rounded east end was for a time universally adopted; but the tide of opinion turned against it in England, and square-ended chancels soon became the rule amongst us. Beyond the foundations of the Abbey Church of Shaftesbury, I do not know of any apsidal chancels of early days in Dorset.

The introduction of the pointed arch, about the year 1135, is often considered to mark a transition to the characteristic English style. But this is not necessarily the case; there seems to be no reason why pointed arches should not have been incorporated into a permanent Romanesque, as they had been into Arab work long before. At Wimborne, Charminster, Bere Regis, and other places for many years afterwards we find the pointed arch associated with methods of structure and details purely Norman; frequently pointed arches in a nave arcade have round-arched windows above them. The real Transitional style began with those improved ideas of construction which become manifest from 1175 onwards, and through which the possibility of lighter and more graceful effects led to the final abandonment of the Romanesque.

The Normans were great colourists, and their interiors were richly painted throughout.

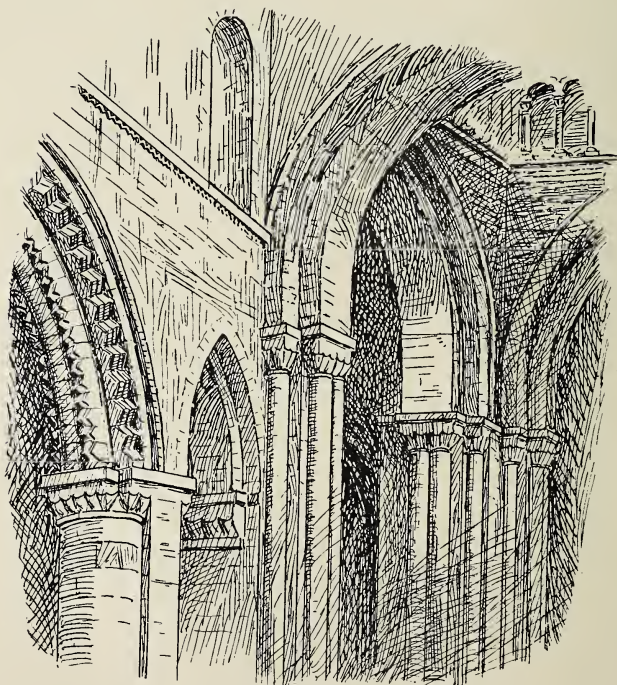
In conclusion, I am venturing to offer you a rough sketch conveying some idea of what a typical Norman church in Dorset looked like in its original condition—some of you may recognise it as that of St. Nicholas, Studland. The details are all adapted from contemporary work.



Let us treasure carefully and reverently the remains that link us with the great and stirring drama of the twelfth century, not without some sympathy and thankfulness towards the builders of that strenuous age—of one of whom the broken effigy at Sherborne retains the epitaph :—

*Clemens clementem sibi sentiat Omnipotentem,  
Quo, dum vivebat, domus haec dominante vigebat.*

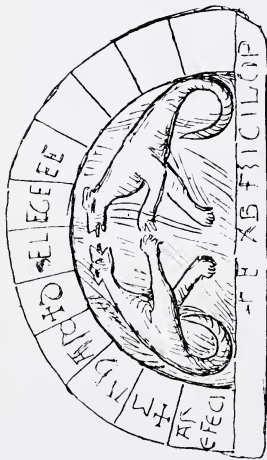
May Clement, under whose rule this house in his lifetime flourished.  
Find (at the last) the Almighty clement to him.



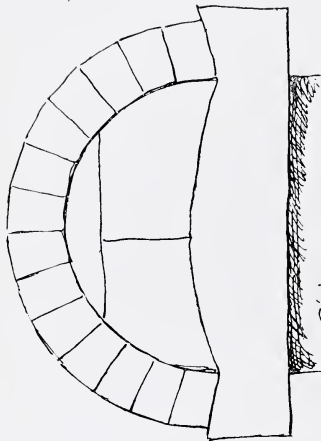
WIMBORNE MINSTER.



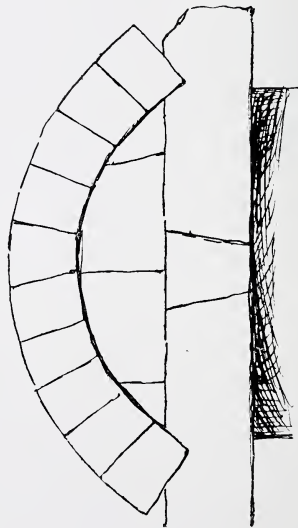




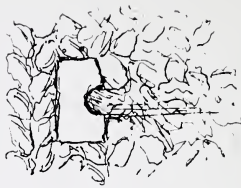
Wynford Eagle.



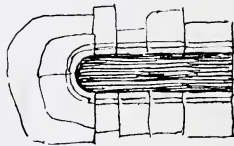
Périers Normandy.



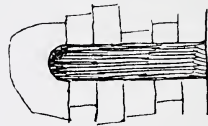
Studland.



Hangleton,  
Sussex.

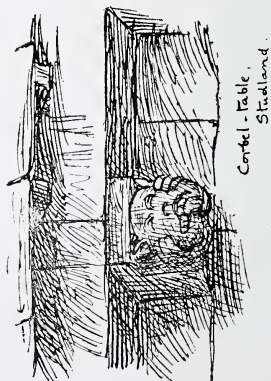
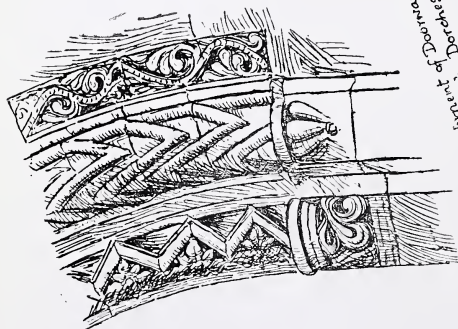
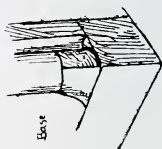
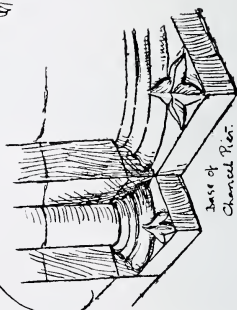
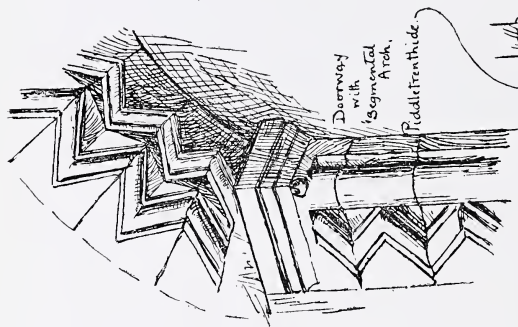
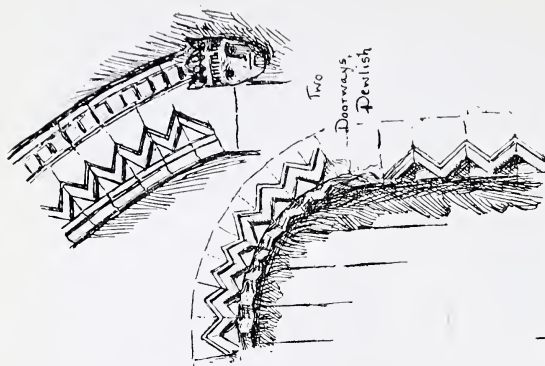


Worth  
Maitravers



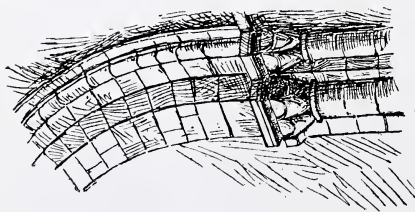
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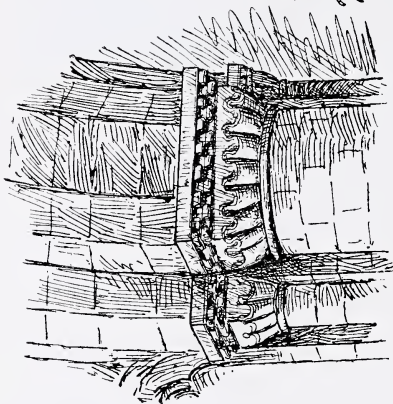




# Norman Piers.



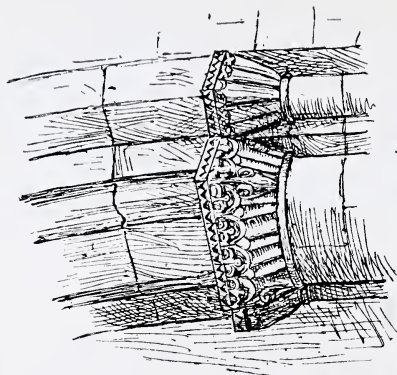
Sherborne



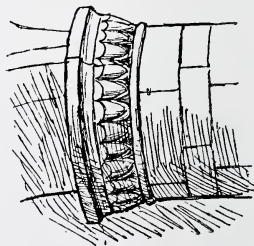
Maiden Newton



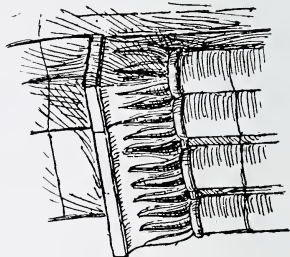
Studland



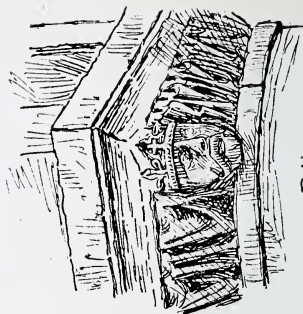
Piddletrenthide.



Juvette Münster.



Godmanstone.



Bere Regis.







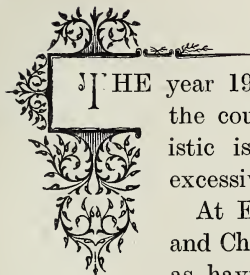


## Returns of Rainfall, &c., in Dorset in 1909.

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By H. STILWELL.

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THE year 1909 must be reckoned as a wet year in the county of Dorset, but its chief characteristic is the great number of days on which excessive falls of rain occurred.

At Evershot, Cattistock, Bradford Peverell, and Charminster, upwards of 1 in. is reported as having fallen on ten separate days in the year, and in the fourth column of Table II.

it will be seen that at many places such falls occurred six, seven, or eight times ; and Weymouth is the only place which reported only two falls of 1 in. in the year.

At Wynford House 3·75 in. was registered on 27th July, and falls of over 2 in. were recorded at ten other stations on that day, and on 26th October a fall of over 2 in. was reported by twenty observers. Also at Winterbourne Whitechurch Vicarage, 2·04 in. fell on 28th September.

Other days, on which falls of over 1 in. were recorded at several places, were 5th and 6th March, 6th June, 17th August, 10th and 28th September, and 21st December.

Taking the mean of the totals of the twenty stations marked with an asterisk in Table I., and comparing it with the mean rainfall of the previous 53 years, viz., 33·53 in., we have an excess of 3·69 in. in 1909; but during the first eight months the rainfall was very deficient, amounting only to 19·52 in., whereas the four later months gave 17·70 in., of which 8·12 in. fell in October, and 5·60 in December. November was a dry month, as also were January, February, April, and May.

The return showing the greatest total fall in the year comes from Bradford Peverell (49·02 in.) which seems abnormally high. Next comes Wynford House (48·33 in.) where 3·75 was registered on 27th July, then Cattistock with 44·94, Steepleton 43·82, and Evershot 43·35. The lowest returns are from Fleet House 27·15 in.; Weymouth, Westham, 27·68 in., and Chickerell Rectory 28·62.

The only long spell of *drought* occurred during the first 23 days of May.

In the following tables reports are published from ten new stations, for seven of which we are indebted to Dr. Mill, the editor of "British Rainfall," who has kindly given advice in the settlement of questions which arose in comparing the figures sent in from various districts.

Three returns, which appeared in the tables for 1908, have dropped out this year, one of these, Milton-on-Stour, being the most northerly station in the county; and, therefore, it is lost with regret.

It will be noticed in Table II., that the fifth column, which, in former reports, gave the number of days on which "·01 in. only" fell, has been altered to show the number of "Days with more than ·01 in.," the number of "days of ·01 in." having been *deducted* from the total number of "rain days" given in the last column of that table.

Some observers are much more accurate than others in recording small amounts of rain, and a fall of ·01 in. in the 24 hours is an almost inappreciable amount, although



when recorded, it shows the care and exactitude of the observer.

By giving a column with the number of "days of more than '01 in.," it will be seen that the numbers of such *appreciable* rain days correspond more nearly with others in their immediate neighbourhood than do the figures given in the last column of that table.

#### OBSERVERS' NOTES ON METEOROLOGICAL PHENOMENA, &C.

BUCKHORN WESTON.—March 2nd. A wonderfully heavy and sudden fall of snow, lasting from 4 p.m. to 4.48 p.m., during which a depth of 3 in. fell. During the night of March 2nd and 3rd, thermometer registered 12° Fahr. in meteorological screen; time, 4 a.m. August 12th.—This evening at about 9.50 p.m., I saw two magnificent meteors, the finest I have ever seen, in the Northern heavens, apparently starting from a point between the Pole star and Cassiopea's chair, and taking their course to the S.W. The tail of the first left a very wide trail of light, lasting some while, and stretching almost right across the sky. The second, which soon followed, —not quite so large, but a very fine one. I may mention here, that on the evening of February 22nd at 7.40, I saw a less beautiful, and slower-flighted meteor in the S.E. heavens, the tail extending over a large area and its course could be traced for quite 15 minutes.

SHROTON.—The feature of the year is the large number of heavy daily rainfalls, no less than five of over an inch, including the 2.51 in. on 26th October, the heaviest for 14 years, the system of which produced 3.48 in.

ST. GILES HOUSE.—Mean temperature of the year 48°·3. Amount of sunshine 1,855.5 hours. Maximum temperature, 91°, August 13th. Minimum 13°, February 23rd, and March 5th. Highest barometer reading, 30.55, January 4th. Lowest barometer reading, 28.40, December 3rd. May had

most sunshine, with 320 hours. From April 30th to May 12th, unbroken sunshine with cold wind. The only real warm weather of the year was between August 7th and August 16th, inclusive.

STURMINSTER MARSHALL.—Night of January 15th—16th bright lightning to the N.W. The snow, marked March 2nd, fell 5.30—6 p.m. A day or two later five inches deep. May 24th, about midnight, heavy thunder rain, 0.66 in. June 6th, heavy thunder rain. From August 1st to 17th, glorious weather. September 28th, rain 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Night, October 29th—30th, first white frost, flowers cut down. December 4th, 5 a.m., vivid flash of lightning and loud thunder.

BROADSTONE.—Only two short periods of drought, three weeks in May and a fortnight in August occurred during the year in this district. In October only three days without rain.

PARKSTONE.—Over 1 in. rain fell on seven occasions, the heaviest rainfall being 2.44 on October 26th. Slight snow fell in morning, February 10th and 28th. March 2nd, snow storm between 5 and 6 a.m. March 3rd, snow fell from 7 to 8 a.m., measured 2 in.

WAREHAM, TRIGON.—February 23rd 18° frost at 8 a.m. March 1st snow fall began in evening. Two inches snow came down in an hour and a-half. By 9.30 a.m. on March 2nd snow measured 8 in., and later in the day 9 in. May 24th, thunderstorm.

EAST LULWORTH.—February dry and cold. February 22nd, brilliant meteor with luminous trail lasting 1½ hours encircled Orion. March 2nd, heavy snowfall, 9 in. deep. March 4th, 16° frost. May, hot and dry till 24th, with N.E. wind. June 29th heavy thunder, lightning, and rain. July 10th, .50 in. rain in 2¼ hours. August, first fortnight extreme heat. October 7th fierce gale and rain. December 5th, thunder, lightning, and rain. Total rainfall 10¾ in. more than last year. Heaviest days February 5th and 6th. July 27th, September 10th, December 21st.



WEYMOUTH, WESTHAM.—Climatological returns for 1909 :—

Means—Barometer	29·976 in.
„ Thermometers	9 a.m. 50·8°
„ „ Maximum	55·9
„ „ Minimum	44·5
„ „ Range	11·4
„ „ Max. and Min.	50·2

Relative humidity, 78 per cent.

Total bright sunshine, 1938·5 hours.

Sunless days, 59

Amount of cloud, 5·9.

The winds, observations taken daily at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., N. 76, N.E. 79, E. 90, S.E. 41, S. 53, S.W. 75, W. 226, N.W. 82, Calms 8.

EASTON, PORTLAND —1909 was a wet year, but as this is a new record I cannot tell how it compares with an average year. January, February, and November were dry months, February, with ·21 only, and 5 wet days, being exceedingly so. Absolute droughts were experienced from the 1st to the 16th May and from the 2nd to the 16th August inclusive. October was a very wet month, 6·32 in. being recorded, and was, as usual, the wettest in the year. December and March were also wet months. More than 1 in. of rain was recorded on five days whilst on 24 days during the year less than ·005 was registered, these days being marked with an asterisk. Snow fell on five days during the year, and thunder was heard on the 24th May and June 16th and 29th.

CHICKERELL RECTORY.—Gales from January 12th till 18th and also most of October. Snowfalls February 26th, 27th, 28th, March 1st to 4th, May 1st, December 15th and 16th. Hail, April 30th. Thunderstorms, June 29th, September 10th. Rather remarkable lunar halo, December 24th.

CHICKERELL, MONTEVIDEO.—April 30th, distant thunder and lightning, early morning. May 24th, sharp midnight thunderstorm. June 5th, 12th, 16th, some thunder, and 29th, thunderstorm. September 12th, slight thunder and lightning.

PORTLAND WATERWORKS, UPWEY.—1909 was a wet year, being wetter than the deduced average by 6·33 in. February and November were dry, which also applies to the first three weeks in May. October, with 7·72 in., was again the wettest month in the year. December, March, and June were also wet. The year was remarkable for the number of days on which more than 1 in. of rain fell, no less than seven such days being recorded, compared with a total of seven days during the past five years. Snow fell on 12 days during the year, and thunder was heard on May 24th and June 16th. Frosts were experienced on October 29th and 30th, during the middle of November, and the early part of December. The number of wet days, namely, 211, is greater than in any year since this record began.

BROADWINDSOR.—February 22, 7 p.m., beautiful meteor passed N.E. to S.E., bluish-green, leaving a track of light, which was visible three hours later. Seven falls of over 1 in. in 24 hours, abnormal. 9·63 in October, greatest registered for one month in past ten years.

BEAMINSTER, FLEET STREET.—

		TEMPERATURE.					
		Max.	Min.			Max.	Min.
January	..	43·3	32·5	August	..	70·0	51·4
February	..	43·8	29·4	September	..	61·7	46·6
March ..	..	44·9	31·3	October	..	56·3	44·4
April ..	..	56·4	39·6	November	..	46·7	33·5
May ..	..	62·6	41·8	December	..	44·8	31·9
June ..	..	62·9	47·2				
July ..	..	67·8	52·6	Means	..	55·1	40·2

Mean range 14·9. Mean temperature of year, 47·7. There were four total droughts of 14, 15, 16, and 15 days respectively in January, February, May, and August. October was the wettest month of the past 18 years, and equalled 8·76 in. In January, February, May, and November the total rainfall was only 3·97 in., out of a total for the year of 40·66 in. There were 97 frosts during the year, of which 37 were in the autumn months. Highest shade temperature, 79°.

WINTERBOURNE STEEPLETON.—The rainfall 6·08 in. above the mean of the previous 16 years. The fall on July 27th (2·85) the heaviest recorded during that period, and on seven other days during the year upwards of 1 in. was registered, of which three occurred in October. A drought occurred in May, when during the first 23 days no rain fell except ·01 on the 17th. The rainfall for the last quarter of the year amounted to 18·61 in., although November was a dry month, and only added 0·93 to the total.

CHARMINSTER.—May 1st, slight snow and hail, very cold May 14th, 2° of frost. 13 days of less than 1°.

Rain March 5th..	..	..	1·08
„ „ 6th..	..	..	1·03
„ June 6th ..	..	..	1·68
„ August 17th	..	..	1·50
„ September 10th	..	..	1·03
„ October 10th	..	..	1·04
„ „ 26th ..	..	..	2·63
„ December 21st	..	..	1·54

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Eight days .. .. 11·53

DORCHESTER, WOLLASTON HOUSE.—Annual average rainfall is given for Dorchester as 34·20. The total for 1909 is, therefore, much in excess. The fall of October 26th, 2·75, is the greatest I have recorded since 1894, when I began in this county.

BLOXWORTH.—The number of days on which over 1 in. of rain fell is remarkable, 7, viz. :—

March 6th	..	..	..	1·40
June 6th	..	..	..	1·28
July 27th	..	..	..	1·34
August 17th	..	..	..	1·49
September 10th..	..	..	..	1·11
October 26th	..	..	..	1·95
December 21st	..	..	..	1·69

Thunderstorms remarkably few and none severe.

TABLE I.—DEPTH OF RAIN IN INCHES, 1909.

Station.	Observer.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Shaftesbury	Rev. F. Ehlvers	1.20	0.58	4.69	1.43	1.22	3.39	3.80	2.63	2.99	6.91	0.71	4.09	33.64
Gillingham	S. H. Stephens	1.40	0.82	4.65	1.99	1.43	3.98	3.70	2.55	4.26	6.92	0.84	4.64	37.18
Buckhorn Weston	Rev. W. Hughes D'Aeth	1.17	0.62	3.72	1.56	1.10	3.58	3.83	2.26	3.13	5.66	0.69	3.85	31.17
Sherborne Castle	T. Turton	1.25	0.87	4.59	2.14	1.45	3.13	3.16	2.25	3.85	8.76	1.07	4.94	35.46
Leigh Vicarage	Rev. T. L. Jenkins	1.37	0.47	5.46	2.22	1.49	3.89	3.46	2.99	2.83	8.65	0.94	6.63	40.40
Holwell, Westrow	H. Gaines	1.40	0.85	4.89	2.00	1.36	3.69	2.95	3.03	3.13	7.43	0.81	5.64	37.18
Sturminster Newton	A. R. Hallett	1.12	0.67	4.27	1.87	1.29	2.80	3.25	2.47	2.51	7.17	0.55	4.45	32.42
" Vicarage	Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell	1.29	0.75	4.66	2.14	1.42	3.07	3.33	2.49	2.74	7.81	0.68	4.57	34.95
Shroton	Vice-Admiral Stopford	1.29	0.67	5.17	2.14	1.57	2.87	3.07	2.68	3.22	7.95	0.58	4.69	35.90
Iwerne Minster House	per "British Rainfall"	1.77	0.43	5.67	2.64	1.27	3.47	3.38	2.41	2.99	8.41	0.16	4.66	37.26
Ashmore	For the Earl of Shaftesbury	1.50	0.86	5.25	2.24	1.57	3.51	4.20	4.38	4.27	8.95	—	5.83	42.56
St. Giles' House	Rev. G. Wellington	1.18	0.54	4.24	1.71	1.79	2.74	3.05	2.98	3.76	9.42	0.47	4.63	36.51
Horton Vicarage	per "British Rainfall"	0.94	0.45	3.25	1.49	1.54	3.08	2.69	2.53	2.99	7.88	0.43	3.94	31.21
Witchampton	G. H. Batterbury, M.D.	1.20	0.48	4.38	1.43	0.77	4.36	2.65	2.51	3.18	9.47	0.66	4.62	35.71
Wimborne, Codford	H. J. Tuck	1.05	0.57	4.30	1.38	1.73	4.30	2.87	2.87	3.64	9.10	0.65	4.37	36.83
Wimborne, Stoneham	Rev. James Cross	1.00	0.44	3.77	1.31	1.60	3.99	2.51	2.75	3.48	8.06	0.59	4.35	33.85
Sturminster Marshall	per "British Rainfall"	1.04	0.51	4.52	1.27	1.54	3.68	2.43	2.70	3.39	8.07	0.65	4.76	34.56
Corfe Mullen, Pumping Station	J. E. James	0.96	0.47	4.16	1.42	1.75	4.17	2.62	2.91	3.49	8.85	0.60	5.31	36.71
Broadstone	H. W. Woodall	0.97	0.48	3.62	1.26	1.73	4.26	2.35	2.95	4.02	7.64	0.65	4.61	34.54
Branksome Gas Works	per "British Rainfall"	0.90	0.43	4.18	1.33	1.67	3.48	1.87	2.95	3.35	7.63	0.64	4.54	32.97
Upper Parkstone, Heatherlands	W. H. Symes	1.10	0.55	4.94	1.50	1.79	4.09	2.23	3.32	3.94	8.93	0.73	5.11	37.93
Parkstone, "Ben Hur"	H. B. Vincent	0.96	0.47	4.43	1.31	1.74	3.78	1.96	3.41	3.55	8.57	0.62	4.73	35.53
Swanage, R. Victoria Hotel	S. W. Bennett	0.95	0.35	4.95	1.04	2.07	2.83	2.32	2.81	3.40	8.63	0.79	5.14	35.29
Wareham, South Street	W. Sargent	0.92	0.45	5.30	1.25	1.84	3.10	2.63	3.25	3.29	7.68	0.89	5.08	35.88
Wareham, Worret Hill	Mrs. Leonard Sturdy	0.71	0.36	4.33	0.85	1.23	3.05	2.29	3.13	3.53	6.85	0.86	5.09	32.28
Wareham, "Trigon"	Lt.-Colonel Farrer	?	0.40	4.91	1.34	1.68	2.94	2.40	3.29	3.06	7.27	0.53	5.29	?
East Stoke, Binnegar Hall	G. D. Bond	0.80	0.51	5.28	1.27	1.87	3.85	2.75	3.44	1.99	7.33	0.92	5.98	36.15
East Lulworth Vicarage	Rev. W. D. Filliter	1.24	0.49	5.50	1.02	1.97	3.54	2.98	3.18	3.98	7.86	1.07	6.44	39.27
West Lulworth Vicarage	Rev. W. P. Schuster	1.03	0.43	4.76	1.27	1.65	3.96	2.26	3.12	3.23	7.52	1.11	5.38	35.72
Warmwell House	Col. A. M. Blake	1.16	0.40	5.03	1.74	1.70	4.90	2.94	3.76	3.23	8.89	0.70	6.81	41.26
Weymouth, "Westham"	I. J. Brown	0.80	0.26	3.90	1.11	1.16	3.14	1.69	2.28	2.16	6.30	0.68	4.20	27.68
Weymouth, "Messandra"	Herbert W. Green	1.18	0.31	4.52	1.45	1.35	4.04	2.22	2.83	2.56	7.37	0.78	5.21	33.83
Wyke Regis, Belfield House	R. Wright, gardener	0.88	0.26	4.28	1.26	1.29	3.33	1.93	2.50	2.41	6.20	0.84	4.42	29.60
Portland Breakwater	per "British Rainfall"	1.10	0.27	4.05	1.44	1.44	3.54	1.97	2.83	2.82	6.56	0.97	4.93	31.92
Portland, Easton	R. S. Henshaw, C.E.	0.87	0.21	4.00	1.26	1.59	3.36	1.87	2.73	2.84	6.32	0.87	4.83	30.75

TABLE I. (CONTINUED).

Station.	Observer.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Fleet House ..	Mrs. C. E. A. George ..	0.94	0.27	4.22	.69	1.18	2.37	2.08	2.78	1.49	6.42	0.58	4.13	27.15
Chickerell Rectory ..	Rev. Sealy Poole ..	0.85	0.29	3.79	1.31	1.14	2.78	2.18	2.78	2.29	6.22	0.66	4.33	28.62
Chickerell, "Montevideo" ..	Mrs. N. M. Richardson ..	0.86	0.26	4.16	1.35	1.21	2.96	2.09	2.63	2.33	6.17	0.66	6.31	29.29
Upwey, Portland Waterworks ..	R. S. Henshaw, C.E. ..	1.10	0.53	4.39	1.61	1.38	4.14	2.85	3.03	3.11	7.72	0.91	6.58	37.15
Abbotsbury, New Barn ..	J. C. P. White ..	1.05	.33	4.90	1.32	.99	3.05	2.47	3.00	2.14	7.23	0.72	5.36	32.56
Bridport, Coneygar ..	H. Gordon ..	1.10	0.31	4.24	1.43	1.13	3.16	3.45	2.86	1.89	7.21	0.75	5.56	33.29
Charmouth, Leslie Cottage ..	James Spurr ..	1.23	.42	4.33	1.59	.80	4.35	3.38	2.42	1.79	6.15	.88	5.44	32.58
Lyme Regis, Colway Cottage ..	James Spurr ..	1.13	0.35	5.00	1.82	1.05	3.28	3.59	2.52	1.76	6.13	0.86	5.72	33.86
Charlstock Vicarage ..	Rev. A. Lewis ..	1.63	.57	5.58	3.28	1.86	3.93	3.52	2.57	2.67	7.29	1.05	5.85	39.15
Broadwindsor Vicarage ..	Rev. G. C. Hutchings ..	1.66	.49	5.83	3.35	1.47	5.08	3.81	2.67	2.89	9.63	.96	5.87	42.71
Broadwindsor, Blackdown House ..	C. E. M. Pinney ..	1.78	.46	6.13	2.42	1.54	4.42	4.08	2.60	3.20	8.92	1.10	6.55	43.25
Beaminstor, Fleet Street ..	James Andrews, Jun. ..	1.19	0.47	5.19	2.15	1.44	4.64	3.79	2.91	2.70	8.76	0.87	6.55	40.66
Beaminstor Vicarage ..	Rev. A. A. Leonard ..	1.40	0.52	5.15	2.08	1.48	4.58	3.89	2.81	2.68	8.84	0.92	6.57	40.26
Chedington Court ..	H. Birkinshaw ..	1.40	.47	5.32	2.33	1.64	3.62	3.27	2.45	2.69	8.69	0.95	6.54	39.37
Melbury House Gardens ..	R. Rintoul ..	1.30	.58	5.56	2.20	1.50	4.21	3.12	2.83	2.79	9.15	0.89	7.09	41.22
Evershot ..	R. Stanley Clarke ..	1.38	.55	5.40	2.19	1.62	4.47	3.39	2.74	3.09	9.39	1.67	7.46	43.35
Cattistock Lodge ..	Major Fagan ..	1.59	0.65	6.25	2.03	1.23	4.77	4.31	3.01	3.07	9.33	0.88	7.82	44.94
Wynford House ..	The Gardener ..	1.62	0.65	6.88	2.26	1.34	4.53	5.81	3.73	2.89	10.63	0.93	7.06	48.33
Littlebrey Parsonage ..	Rev. C. E. R. Romilly ..	1.25	.41	5.81	1.47	1.33	3.61	3.09	3.49	2.75	8.77	0.57	7.02	39.57
Winterbourne Steepleton ..	H. Stilwell ..	1.48	0.59	5.60	1.96	1.20	3.82	4.14	3.62	2.80	9.90	0.93	7.78	43.82
Bradford Peverell House ..	Mrs. Middleton ..	1.35	.59	5.06	2.07	1.34	4.20	3.93	3.46	2.88	9.98	1.15	6.74	42.71
Rectory ..	Major Platt ..	1.64	.62	6.24	2.65	1.35	5.32	4.22	4.06	3.05	11.27	1.08	7.59	49.09 ?
Charminster, "Brooklands" ..	Captain Dymond ..	1.38	.58	5.23	1.72	1.11	4.82	3.67	3.25	2.77	10.55	1.08	6.55	42.71
Dorchester Waterworks ..	P. T. Harrison ..	1.37	0.53	5.30	1.72	1.21	4.12	3.54	3.32	3.13	9.55	0.89	6.79	41.47
Dorchester, Wollaston House ..	Captain J. E. Acland ..	1.32	0.44	5.41	1.80	1.25	4.28	3.47	3.45	2.95	10.20	0.83	6.87	42.27
Winterbourne Herrington ..	R. B. White ..	1.33	.50	5.37	1.80	.92	5.03	3.16	3.30	3.12	9.40	0.71	7.19	41.83
Puddletown Vicarage ..	Rev. A. Helps ..	1.28	.61	5.24	1.25	1.31	4.63	3.15	2.97	3.38	9.80	1.07	6.56	41.25
Bere Regis, Barrow Hill ..	A. Lucas ..	0.94	0.52	4.74	1.55	1.29	4.22	2.63	2.86	3.06	7.53	0.74	5.74	35.82
Bloxworth House ..	F. G. A. Lane ..	1.16	0.77	5.20	1.65	1.52	4.68	2.67	3.12	3.21	7.80	0.86	5.57	38.21
Bloxworth Rectory ..	Rev. O. Pickard-Cambridge ..	1.15	1.14	4.87	1.29	1.65	4.27	2.75	3.13	3.09	7.35	0.72	5.47	36.88
Winterbourne Whitechurch, "Longthorns" ..	Samuel Smart ..	1.06	0.93	5.61	2.06	1.30	3.51	3.51	2.81	4.40	9.63	0.68	6.20	41.70
Vicarage ..	per "British Rainfall" ..	1.12	0.85	5.38	1.76	1.49	3.80	3.51	2.74	4.61	8.92	0.69	5.39	40.26
Milton Abbey Gardens ..	C. H. Perkins ..	1.50	1.11	5.91	2.24	1.63	3.28	3.49	3.38	4.57	9.57	0.90	6.82	44.40
Means of the 20 Stations marked with an asterisk ..	..	1.18	0.55	4.95	1.66	1.52	3.67	3.05	2.94	3.17	8.12	0.81	5.60	37.22



TABLE II.—RAINFALL IN 1909.

Stations.	Total.	Greatest fall in 24 hours.		Days with		Number of Days on which '0lin. or more was recorded.												Year.
		Depth.	Date.	In. or more.	more than '0lin.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
Shaftesbury	33.64	In.	26 Oct.	6	160	14	5	25	13	9	17	18	12	16	26	8	23	183
Gillingham	37.18	1.71	26 "	5	169	12	5	24	13	7	19	18	11	16	25	9	21	180
Buckhorn Weston	31.17	1.84	26 "	4	175	13	5	24	13	7	21	16	10	18	28	15	23	200
Sherborne Castle	35.46	1.72	26 "	4	170	15	7	26	13	7	21	16	11	18	28	10	21	178
Leigh Vicarage	40.40	1.87	26 "	6	172	14	3	23	11	8	19	16	10	15	26	10	22	178
Holwell, Westrow	37.18	1.68	26 "	6	172	12	5	23	12	8	19	16	10	15	26	10	22	178
Sturminster Newton	32.42	2.42	26 "	4	146	12	5	21	12	8	18	13	11	10	23	7	17	157
Sturminster Newton Vicarage	34.95	2.46	26 "	5	167	12	6	22	13	8	19	13	11	12	25	9	22	172
Shroton	35.90	2.51	26 "	5	152	11	6	23	12	8	17	13	10	13	23	6	19	163
Iwerne Minster House	37.26	2.66	26 "	6	135	12	4	20	10	8	16	13	6	8	21	3	16	137?
Ashmore	42.56	?	—	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
St. Giles' House	36.51	2.80	26 Oct.	6	145	11	5	20	12	8	17	15	8	11	27	3	21	158
Horton Vicarage	31.21	2.40	26 "	6	139	17	5	21	14	8	20	18	9	13	27	6	22	180
Witchampton	35.71	2.67	26 "	?	?	12	3	15	10	5	13	11	7	8	25	3	15	127?
Wimborne, "Codford"	36.83	2.65	26 "	7	146	14	6	21	15	6	19	16	10	16	27	7	22	179
Wimborne, Stoneham	33.85	2.62	26 "	7	143	13	4	19	12	6	15	14	9	13	25	8	19	157
Sturminster Marshall	34.56	2.40	26 "	6	150	11	5	20	11	6	19	13	10	13	28	7	21	154
Corfe Mullen Pumping Station	36.71	2.35	26 "	7	?	10	3	14	9	6	15	9	7	11	22	4	12	122?
Broadstone	34.54	2.05	26 "	7	146	12	4	19	12	6	17	11	10	16	28	6	18	159
Branksome Gas Works	32.97	1.54	26 "	8	129	11	5	22	12	6	16	10	9	12	25	7	18	153
Upper Parkstone, Heatherlands	37.93	2.35	26 "	7	169	13	8	25	12	5	17	17	10	18	29	8	22	184
Parkstone, "Ben Hur"	35.53	2.44	26 "	7	148	11	4	23	11	6	17	13	10	15	28	6	19	162
Swange, R. Victoria Hotel	35.29	1.72	26 "	7	146	11	4	23	11	6	14	10	9	14	27	8	22	159
Wareham, South Street	35.88	1.61	6 Mar.	6	148	15	7	22	11	5	18	14	11	14	26	9	19	171
Wareham, Worgret Hill	32.28	1.38	26 Oct.	6	154	15	5	26	8	5	21	16	12	18	30	11	25	193
Wareham, "Trigon"	—	1.40	27 July	6	—	15	5	25	10	5	18	12	9	14	24	6	17	—
East Stoke, Binnegar Hall	36.15	1.57	27 "	5	137	10	4	4	9	5	18	11	11	9	21	7	21	143
Holme	37.07	1.56	27 "	6	140	8	5	17	8	5	16	9	10	14	25	5	21	152
East Lulworth Vicarage	39.27	1.67	26 "	8	135	10	7	18	10	5	19	10	10	16	23	5	21	154
West Lulworth Vicarage	35.72	1.66	26 "	6	156	13	4	12	11	5	17	10	9	12	25	8	20	156
Warmwell House	41.26	2.01	26 "	6	168	14	7	25	15	6	17	14	11	16	26	8	22	181
Weymouth, Westham	27.68	1.21	26 "	2	142	11	3	25	11	7	17	11	10	14	23	7	21	160
Weymouth, "Messandra"	33.83	1.58	26 "	6	174	19	6	25	13	8	19	14	11	17	25	10	25	192
Wyke Regis, Belfield House	29.60	1.39	26 "	4	147	13	4	25	14	6	17	15	10	15	24	8	21	172
Portland Breakwater	31.92	1.57	26 "	?	?	11	5	22	13	6	19	14	9	13	26	8	24	170
Portland, Easton...	30.75	1.47	26 "	5	143	12	5	22	14	6	16	14	10	14	26	10	21	170



Stations.	Total.	Greatest fall in 24 hours.		Days with		Number of Days on which 'Olin. or more was recorded.												Year.
		Depth.	Date.	In. or more.	more than 'Olin.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
Fleet House .. ..	In. 27.15	In. 1.28	17 Aug.	6	121	9	3	23	8	4	12	10	5	6	19	5	17	121
Chickerell Rectory ..	28.62	1.26	26 Oct.	5	149	13	7	24	14	6	17	15	11	15	28	11	24	185
Chickerell, "Montevideo" ..	29.29	1.40	26 "	5	153	15	5	26	16	8	19	16	12	15	27	7	21	181
Upwey, Portland Water Works ..	37.15	1.87	26 "	7	176	15	11	23	12	6	20	15	12	18	29	18	26	211
Abbotsbury, New Barn ..	32.56	1.63	26 "	7	168	17	5	28	13	5	19	15	12	15	27	11	24	191
Bridport, Coneygar ..	33.29	?	26 "	4	?	11	3	25	10	4	17	12	13	12	24	9	20	160
Charmouth, Leslie Cottage ..	32.58	1.95	27 July	4	150	12	5	24	14	4	17	12	13	12	23	9	21	167
Lyme Regis, Colway Cottage ..	33.86	2.19	27 "	4	138	13	3	24	14	6	15	15	12	11	25	8	21	163
Charstock Vicarage ..	39.15	1.75	27 Dec.	5	160	13	3	22	14	9	18	15	12	16	23	9	22	178
Broadwindsor Vicarage ..	42.71	1.80	27 July	7	172	14	6	27	15	7	18	16	11	15	27	12	21	189
Broadwindsor, Blackdown House ..	43.25	1.54	27 "	7	176	15	7	26	12	8	19	18	12	19	27	15	25	203
Beaminstor, Fleet Street ..	40.66	1.73	27 "	7	164	13	5	26	14	8	17	16	11	14	27	10	23	184
Beaminstor Vicarage ..	40.92	1.69	27 "	7	166	14	5	24	15	8	17	16	11	14	27	9	22	182
Chedington Court ..	39.37	1.42	27 Dec.	8	166	14	5	23	13	8	16	13	9	15	25	10	23	175
Melbury House Gardens ..	41.22	1.50	21 "	9	166	13	5	24	13	7	18	14	13	16	24	7	18	177
Evershot ..	43.35	1.60	21 "	10	167	16	6	26	13	9	16	14	13	18	29	13	25	205
Cattistock Lodge ..	44.94	2.20	27 July	10	161	13	7	25	10	6	18	16	11	14	25	10	21	176
Wynford House ..	48.33	3.75	27 "	8	164	14	5	22	15	7	19	13	10	18	28	9	19	179
Littlebredy Parsonage ..	39.57	?	27 "	8	164	13	6	23	9	5	17	12	9	16	25	8	20	163
Winterbourne Steepleton ..	43.82	2.85	27 July	8	166	16	8	25	16	6	21	14	11	17	27	12	25	198
Bradford Peverell House ..	42.75	2.53	27 "	7	169	12	7	24	13	5	21	17	11	16	28	10	22	186
Bradford Peverell Rectory ..	49.09	2.78	27 "	10	148	11	4	22	12	5	17	11	10	12	23	5	16	148
Charminstor, "Brooklands" ..	42.71	2.63	26 Oct.	7	146	11	5	22	11	5	16	10	10	11	24	5	18	150
Dorchester Waterworks ..	41.47	2.38	27 July	10	165	12	8	25	15	5	18	15	11	15	27	7	25	183
Dorchester, Wollaston House ..	42.27	2.75	26 Oct.	8	149	12	6	23	14	8	20	14	12	15	29	7	23	184
Winterbourne Herrington ..	41.83	2.23	26 "	8	135	10	5	24	12	6	18	11	10	11	24	4	19	154
Puddletown Vicarage ..	41.25	2.04	26 "	8	150	13	3	20	8	4	15	11	11	13	27	8	22	155
Bere Regis, Barrow Hill ..	35.82	1.77	26 "	8	156	11	5	25	11	5	18	12	10	16	26	7	21	167
Bloxworth House ..	38.21	1.71	21 Dec.	7	164	12	8	25	12	6	19	14	10	14	28	8	21	177
Bloxworth Rectory ..	36.88	1.95	26 Oct.	7	—	10	7	20	7	6	17	13	9	10	19	6	21	141
Winterbourne Whitchurch, "Longthorns" ..	41.70	1.94	28 Sept.	7	155	11	7	23	12	5	18	15	10	18	28	9	22	177
Winterbourne Whitchurch Vicarage ..	40.26	2.04	28 "	7	135?	8	4	22	8	7	14	14	10	12	24	5	15	143
Milton Abbey Gardens ..	44.40	1.97	21 Dec.	7	164	15	11	24	15	8	19	15	11	16	27	11	21	193
Means of the 20 Stations marked with an asterisk .. ..	37.22	—	—	6.3	153.9	12.5	6.1	23.2	12.8	6.8	17.9	13.8	10.5	14.6	26.3	8.6	21.7	174.8

TABLE III.—STATISTICS OF THE TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR, AND OF THE HUMIDITY AND AMOUNT OF CLOUD, AT WINTERBOURNE STEEPLETON MANOR, AT 9 A.M., KEPT BY MR. H. STILWELL.

1909.	Temperature of the Air.							Humidity of Air Saturation = 100.	Cloud. Overcast = 10.
	In Stevenson's Screen.					On Grass.			
	Average of			Extremes.		Average Lowest.	Lowest.		
	Highest.	Lowest.	Daily.	Highest.	Lowest.				
	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	
January ..	44·2	33·4	39·0	50·7	19·0	31·1	16·3	90	7·5
February ..	44·2	29·7	37·0	52·0	17·7	26·8	12·8	87	6·1
March ..	44·4	32·2	38·1	52·8	12·0	29·7	8·7	91	7·0
April ..	55·4	38·9	46·8	70·0	28·2	36·6	24·5	78	5·9
May ..	64·7	39·4	51·3	75·6	25·8	35·1	22·0	71	4·3
June ..	60·5	46·1	52·8	69·0	36·8	42·8	32·4	34	7·9
July ..	65·2	52·6	58·5	72·0	42·1	49·4	36·9	83	7·2
August ..	70·1	50·6	59·7	85·2	41·9	47·0	37·8	80	4·5
September ..	61·6	47·5	54·2	68·0	36·0	43·5	32·0	89	7·4
October ..	56·7	46·3	51·3	64·8	26·0	43·1	20·8	93	7·3
November ..	48·0	34·3	41·2	57·0	24·0	32·0	20·0	92	5·5
December ..	46·1	32·9	39·8	51·8	18·1	31·1	16·0	93	7·1
Year ..	55·1	40·3	47·7			37·4		83·6	6·5



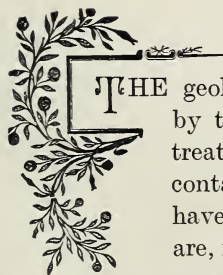
## The Geology of the Purbeck Hills.

*(Being the Mansel-Pleydell Prize Essay, 1909-10.)*

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By Dr. W. THEOPHILUS ORD.

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THE geology of the district of Dorset traversed by the Purbeck Hills has been exhaustively treated by many able geologists; but it contains three problems of great interest which have not yet been satisfactorily solved. These are, in brief, (1) The mode of formation of the great Purbeck Thrust-Fault in the Chalk; (2) the origin of the Corfe Monticle on which Corfe Castle stands; and (3) the details of the vast processes of denudation by which the enormous mass of strata that within recent geological times, possibly since Oligocene days, has been removed from the southern half of the Isle of Purbeck, that is, south of the Purbeck Hills. The present paper comprises (I.) a general sketch of the geology of this district, and (II.) an account of the author's studies and researches which it is hoped may advance our knowledge of these three problems a step or two further.

## PART I.

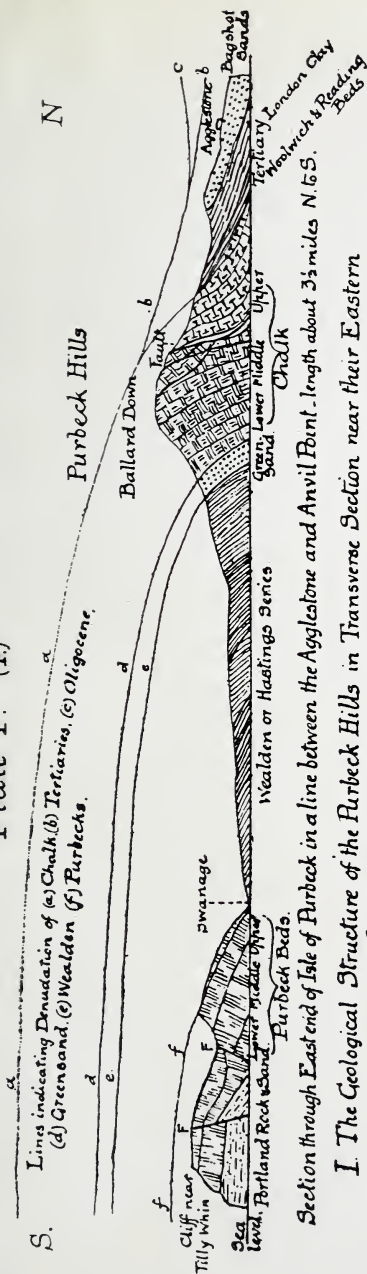
## INTRODUCTORY.

The Purbeck Hills traverse the Isle of Purbeck from east to west, commencing at the chalk cliffs of Handfast Point and terminating at the chalk cliff in Worbarrow Bay. Geologically their chalk formation is continued west of Worbarrow ; but since the Isle of Purbeck terminates geographically at Arishmell Gap, this paper does not consider the further prolongation of their structure west of that point. The Purbeck Hills divide the Isle of Purbeck geographically into two portions, namely a northern half which extends to the River Frome, and consists of Tertiary strata, chiefly Bagshot sands and clays, and a southern portion which forms a syncline of Wealden Clay merging southwards into the northern slope of an anticline of Upper, Middle, and Lower Purbeck beds ending at a coastline of high cliffs of Portland stone and sand resting on Kimmeridge clay, which forms the axis of the anticline. The line of Purbeck Hills thus dividing the Isle of Purbeck is formed of an elevated monoclinical ridge of highly inclined, often vertical, chalk, flanked on the north by Tertiary beds, and on the south by a narrow strip of Greensand, the beds of which are conformable with the almost vertical chalk, and hence are exposed at the surface on edge. These comprise Punfield beds, Atherfield clay, and Upper and Lower Greensand, which, however, can seldom be distinguished geologically. The Gault is not here represented as distinct from the Upper Greensand.\* The three diagrams on Plate I. give an illustration of the relationship of the strata in three transverse sections—I. near the eastern extremity of the hills ; II., about their centre ; and III., near their western termination.

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\* Strahan, *Memoirs Geol. Survey, Isle of Purbeck*, p. 143.

# Plate I. (1)

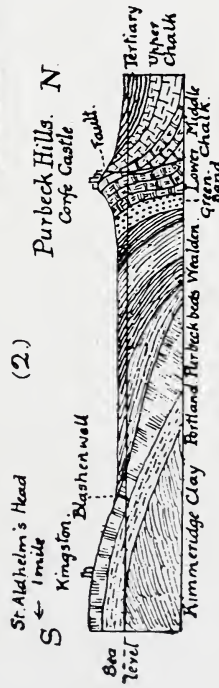


## I. The Geological Structure of the Purbeck Hills in Transverse Section near their Eastern Termination in Ballard Down

(I. Modified from a Section by Mr. Bristow, reproduced in vol of Excursions of Geol. Assoc. Fig II & III, based upon Sections in Dr Strahan's Guide to Model of Isle of Purbeck.)

### St. Aldhelm's Head

← 1 mile



Section from N of Corfe Castle, towards St. Aldhelm's Head. about 2½ miles.

## II. The Purbeck Hills, Central Section

(3)

### Purbeck Hills

← Gad Cliff



Section from N to S through Flowers Barrow, towards Gad's Cliff. 1½ mile

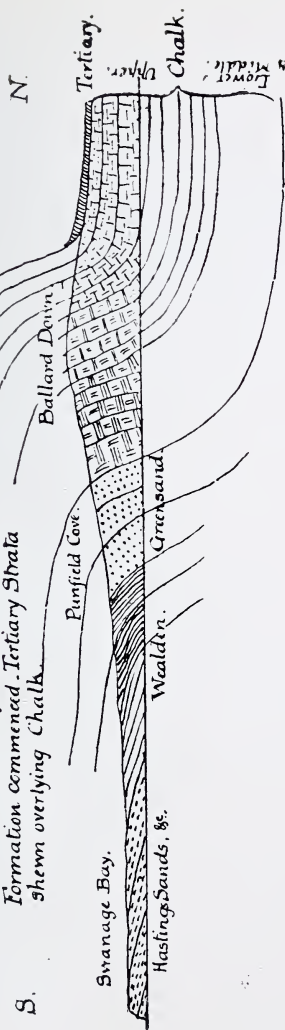
## III The Purbeck Hills, Western End





# Plate II.

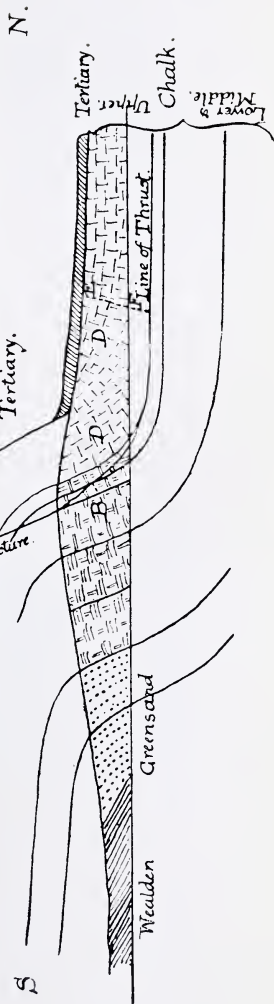
fig. 1. The Monoclinal Edge of the Great Furbeck Anticline before the Fault Formation commenced. Tertiary Strata shown overlying Chalk.



Diagrams illustrating formation of the Furbeck Thrust Fault.

fig. 2.

The Same, shewing Line of Fracture ABC and of Thrust, and the wedge-shaped mass of Chalk DD forced southwards and upwards and since denuded off together with the Tertiary.





## PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE DISTRICT.

The Purbeck Hills, commencing at the chalk cliffs of the Foreland, form at Handfast Point the south-easterly promontory of Studland Bay. Their range proceeds from this point W.S.W. for rather less than a mile, forming the high chalk cliffs of the eastern half of Ballard Down so far as Punfield Cove, where they bound the northern side of Swanage Bay. At Punfield Cove the Purbeck Hills strike inland, continuing as the high ridge of Ballard Down, which rises to a height of 528 ft. About two miles from the Foreland their range curves W.N.W., and thence extends in a wide sweep ten miles in length, having its concavity to the South and terminating at Worbarrow Bay. This is a point one mile beyond the stream known as Luckford Lake, which is considered geographically the western boundary of the Isle of Purbeck. The eastern portion of the ridge is known as Nine Barrow Down, which rises to a height of 655 ft. This terminates at about the centre of the range at Corfe Gap. West of this, the ridge is known as Knowle Hill, 481 ft. in height. Two miles from Corfe, on the northern flank of the hill, is the well-known eminence of Creech Barrow, which in height is only slightly less than the Purbeck Hills. Geologically Creech Barrow is of extreme interest, as it consists of Tertiary beds, probably of Bagshot sands, which have been shown by the late Mr. W. H. Hudleston to be there capped by limestone of the Oligocene age. From this we conclude that the Tertiary beds were formerly overlain by Oligocene strata, which now occur nowhere else in this district. In Section I., Plate I., their probable position has been indicated in the extreme right of the diagram. As Creech Barrow does not come strictly within the subject of this paper, it will not be further considered.

At Creech Barrow the ridge of Purbeck Hills bends slightly southwards, about W.S.W., and is there known as Flowers Barrow, which is 567 ft. high, thence it terminates geographically in Warbarrow Bay.

## GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF THE PURBECK HILLS.

The geological structure of the Purbeck Hills can best be studied at Ballard Cliffs, and especially the adjacent coast of Studland Bay. The great cliff section at Ballard Downs shows the structure to consist of a central axis of nearly vertical chalk strata which projects upwards, so that its edges form an escarpment near the summit of the hills. On the northern slopes this vertical edge is flanked by a sheet of chalk beds which incline rapidly from the vertical to the horizontal, where they are overlain by Tertiary strata. On the southern slopes of the chalk ridge is a thin strip of the edges of Greensand strata comprising Upper and Lower Greensand, and Punfield beds, which strata are almost vertical, conformably with the chalk. These are succeeded by Wealden clays, which, being highly inclined against the Greensand at first, become gradually horizontal southward, and form the lowest slopes of the southern flanks of the hills. This structure is shown in each of the three sections in Plate I.

The disposition of strata on the northern slopes of the hills can best be studied in Studland Bay, from the opening of the little dell, whence Studland village is approached, to near the Foreland. From the former spot Bagshot sands occupy the coast line. These are the lower beds of the Bagshot series, and are of fluvial origin, although here unfossiliferous. They consist of variegated and coloured sands, with thin partings of clay, dipping at a slight angle of  $5^{\circ}$  to  $7^{\circ}$  N.E., and are continued to a point about 400 yards beyond the little coombe leading to the village, where they are replaced by London Clay. This in a short distance gives place to Woolwich and Reading beds, which here consist chiefly of white sand, some 40 ft. thick, with a bed of flint gravel 6 to 10 ft. thick between it and the London clay. The Woolwich and Reading beds occupy some 100 yards of the foreshore, which here curves round to the east. At a point half a mile from the Foreland the chalk appears at the shore level. Its upper surface, on which the

Tertiary beds rest, is deeply piped and eroded, as it is in the same point of junction in Alum Bay, with which it was formerly continuous, before the sea broke through the chalk ridge between the Needles and the Foreland to carve out Bournemouth Bay. The Woolwich and Reading beds are here described by Mr. Strahan (Memoirs of the Geol. Survey, Isle of Purbeck) as consisting of hard brown grit with rolled flints and some red or mottled clay. This description also well suits the same beds lying against the chalk in Alum Bay. The Tertiary beds here commence ascending from the shore on the chalk, and some 250 yards to the east they thin off at the top of the cliff, which, beyond this point, consists wholly of chalk. The chalk here consists of the upper beds of the *Belemnitella mucronata* zone, having the usual bands of black flints. As far as the Foreland the beach follows the line of strike of the beds, which are nearly horizontal, and continue so until near the great fault. The right-hand portion of the section in Fig. 1, Plate I., illustrates the strata here described, and is typical of the structure of the northern flanks of the Purbeck Hills throughout their range, though nowhere shown so well as in Studland Bay.

#### THE SECTION AT THE CLIFFS OF BALLARD DOWN.

This magnificent section cuts the southern half of the Purbeck Hills nearly at a right angle, giving as perfect a view of their structure as could be desired, and completing the view obtained in Studland Bay. From the Foreland or Handfast Point, vertical chalk cliffs extend S.S.W. for a mile and a-quarter, increasing gradually in height from 50ft. at the point, to 250ft. at Ballard Head. From Ballard Point to Punfield Cove the cliffs turn west for 400 yards, the chalk there giving place to Punfield and Upper Greensand beds. From the Foreland southwards the strata, corresponding with the beds on the other face of the cliff in Studland Bay,

are nearly horizontal, dipping about  $8^{\circ}$  a little west of north ; but half way along the section they suddenly bend upwards in a magnificent curve, forming a quarter of a circle at the great fault, which here interrupts their continuity. This fault is indicated in Plate I., Fig. 1., but this section, being taken some distance from the cliffs, does not show the structure of the fault, which, however, is exhibited in Plate III., Fig. 3. So many excellent photographs of these cliffs and the fault have been published in various works that we have not thought it necessary to reproduce one ; but the best is probably that in Dr. Rowe's "Zones of the White Chalk of the Dorset Coast," p. 35. On the southern side of the fault the beds are vertical, but they gradually decline from this angle to their junction with the Punfield beds. Thence are found in succession the Upper Greensand, Gault (which, however, cannot be identified distinctly) and the Lower Greensand, which are found in some 220 yards, each dipping N. at a gradually diminishing angle, until succeeded by Wealden strata which, at half a mile from Punfield Cove, appear to have escaped the disturbing effect of the fault, and resume the nearly horizontal level of the chalk north of of the rupture towards the Foreland. The total thickness of the chalk in this section has been estimated at 1,300 ft. It gradually decreases throughout the range of Purbeck Hills westward, being 1,200 ft. at Lulworth, beyond the Purbeck area, and about 500 ft. at Blackdown, where the chalk vanishes to seaward. The thicknesses of the three great divisions of the chalk in this section are given by Dr. Strahan as upper chalk, 1,049 ft. ; middle chalk, 102 ft., and lower chalk, 149 ft. The chalk rock, Melbourn rock, and chloritic marl, which severally divide these sections, can each be traced in their usual positions, and the zones into which each division is subdivided have been exhaustively worked out and described by Dr. Rowe in his paper quoted above. Reference to the three diagrams in Plate I. will show that the geological structure here described is continuous throughout the range of the Purbeck Hills.



GEOLOGICAL RELATIONSHIPS OF THE PURBECK  
HILLS.

The relationship, geologically, of the hills with the strata of the South of England demands attention. A study of the geological map of England shows that the chalk forms four anticlinal lines from W. to E. and N.E. These four in order from N. to S. form each the escarpment of four series of hills, namely the Chiltern Hills, the North Downs, the South Downs, and the Brixton anticline of the Isle of Wight. This latter was formerly continuous with the Purbeck Hills before the formation of Bournemouth Bay, the position of the central chalk ridge, with its adjacent strata being almost identical in each case. Between the Chiltern Hills and the North Downs lies the Tertiary basin of the Thames valley, and between the South Downs (with their prolongation westward as the Wiltshire Downs) and the Southern chalk of the Isle of Wight with the Purbeck Hills, lies a similar Tertiary basin, the trough of which is now occupied by the Solent, Bournemouth Bay, and the River Frome. In addition to these four main anticlines, there are in Hampshire two subsidiary chalk ridges parallel with the southern anticline, those of Guildford and Portsdown. These chalk hills, together with their intervening valleys or synclines, are observed to lie *en echelon* along a line from W. to E., or to E.N.E., coinciding in direction somewhat with the chalk ridges between Norfolk and Dorset. With one important exception, each of these anticlinal ridges is formed of an axis of chalk, the intervening valleys forming basins of softer Tertiary strata, or, between the North and South Downs, by Wealden and Lower Cretaceous beds. The exception to this rule is the case of the Purbeck Hills, and a reference to Plate I., Fig. 1, will show that they do not form the axis of the southern anticline, but rather consist of the northern monoclinal edge of the upheaved mass whose axis is really the Kimmeridge clay, some three miles south of the

hills, beneath the southern cliffs of Purbeck. Another important feature common to each of these chalk anticlines is that their northern sides are steeper and more abrupt than the southern. These considerations lead to the conclusion that this series of anticlines, including that of the Purbeck area, were all formed about the same time, and by the same series of earth movements. These movements were tangential and compressive. Their direction must have been from N. to S., or N.N.E. to S.S.W., thus producing a greater steepness of fold on the side against which the pressure was applied. In each case the massive chalk strata presented the greatest resistance to the movements, and hence were raised up in earth waves, protecting in each case, except that of the Purbeck Hills, the softer southern strata from extreme disturbance. That the disturbance penetrated southward of the chalk in the Isle of Purbeck may be accounted for by several considerations :—(1) That the earth wave had here become deeper, and so passed partly beneath the chalk, its superficial force having been absorbed by the more northern beds ; (2) that the chalk strata here offered less resistance than elsewhere ; and (3) by the chalk fracturing in the line of the great fault. Each of these facts would encourage the main earth movement to upheave the beds beyond the chalk, and hence cause the original anticline of the Isle of Purbeck to attain vaster dimensions than its northern contemporaries. The original outline of the anticline is shown in Plate I., Fig. 1. It formerly extended for at least three miles out to sea, but has been denuded back to what is probably the center of its axis at the present coast line. It is evident, therefore, that the Purbeck Hills here form, as stated, the northern monoclinical edge of this great anticline, so differing from the otherwise similar chalk hills to northward. Geologically they are continuous with the chalk axis of the Isle of Wight, and form a westerly extension of the southern lip of the Hampshire basin. The total length of this anticline from Brixton to its western termination in Weymouth Bay is about fifty miles.

## PART II.

## SPECIAL POINTS IN GEOLOGY OF DISTRICT.

## THE GREAT PURBECK THRUST FAULT.

In the cliffs below Ballard Down an almost transverse section of this well-known fault is magnificently exposed. The fault runs due east and west, and its effect has been to thrust a huge sheet of upper chalk strata on the northern sides of the Purbeck Hills for probably their whole extent—10 miles, and also for an equal distance beyond the district—upwards and southwards for probably 300 yards or more over the upturned edges of the strata south of the line of fracture (Plate III., Fig. 3). From the exposure in Ballard Cliffs, the fault runs in the axis of Ballard Down, for nearly two miles to a gap in the hills between that and Nine Barrow Down, through which the road from Swanage to Studland passes, and where the Ulwell spring is thrown out. It continues thence along the line of the hills, and can be clearly traced beyond the Isle of Purbeck in several cliff sections. The enormous forces involved in this great earth movement, a fracture at least a quarter of a mile across, and extending for over twenty miles, are shown in the changes in the chalk contiguous to the line of motion. These at Ballard Cliff have pulverised the flints and drawn them out into streaks of black dust, the rock between the bedding planes being polished into slickensides. The fracture is seen (Plate II., Fig. 2, and Plate III., Fig. 1), to have taken place along one of the bedding planes, while the upturned edges of the nearly vertical beds on the southern side of the fault have been sheared off by the forcing of the upper beds over them. So much is obvious ; but the exact means by which the present effect was brought about is less easily to be traced. Many geologists have endeavoured to explain this, but the latest and most thorough account is that given by Dr. Strahan in “Memoirs of the

Geological Survey, Isle of Purbeck," and also in his "Guide to the Geological Model of the Isle of Purbeck." Dr. Strahan has not, however, given diagrams to illustrate the various steps in the process, and hence his description is by no means easy to follow. His account also depends on a certain contingency which further study may prove to be incorrect, and in that case the method of construction must have been materially different. In Plate II., Figs. 1 and 2, and Plate III., Fig. 1, I have drawn diagrams illustrating the several steps in the process as described by Dr. Strahan, and in Plate III., Figs. 2 and 3, two diagrams are given illustrating the alternative explanation, which may yet prove to be the more correct. I now give a description of these diagrams and the geological processes they are designed to illustrate.

Until near the close of the Oligocene period the strata of this district remained almost in the horizontal position in which they had been deposited; but at this period earth shrinkage commenced to upheave the great anticline indicated in outline in Plate I., Fig. 1. No fracture commenced until this had proceeded probably to its highest point, which was then as now in the Purbeck area, and still exists in the chalk monocline of the Isle of Wight where it has remained unfractured until now. The condition would then have been as indicated in Plate II., Fig. 1, which shows on a larger scale the monoclinal edge of the great anticline with which we have now to deal. Tertiary beds, since denuded off, must then have overlain the chalk, and probably these were in places covered by Oligocene beds, a remnant of which is still found (as described by the late Mr. Hudleston) capping Creech Barrow. The movement continuing, a fracture began to form, and the question arises, where did this first occur? The researches of the French geologist, C. Barrois \* (*"Terrain Crétacé Supérieur,"* 1896), confirmed

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\* Dr. Barrois supposed that the northern beds belonged to the Marsupites zone, but this has since been disproved. (Dr. Rowe, op. cit., p. 36.)

by Dr. Strahan, and since more minutely by Dr. Rowe in his "Zones of the White Chalk of the Dorset Coast," have proved that the curved beds north of the fracture, and the vertical beds below, belong all to the *Belemnites mucronata* zone of the Upper White Chalk, which is the highest zone of the series. It is assumed by Dr. Strahan that the vertical beds are the lower series of this zone and the curved beds above the fracture the upper beds of the same series, and on this supposition my three first diagrams are based. If this be so, the line of fracture must have occurred as indicated by the line A B C in Fig. 2, Plate II. It would have commenced along a bedding plane dividing the zone into an upper and lower portion, of which the former subsequently formed the curved beds above the fault and the lower became the vertical beds below it. These latter must have been cut across by the fracture as at B, the rupture then continuing upwards across the elevated beds of the monocline as at A, which beds have since been denuded off. A movement then took place from N. to S. along the fracture, the upper beds being thrust bodily, in a sheet 20 miles wide, first southward for at least 400ft. (the present height of the Downs), then upwards over the upturned edges of the stationary lower beds, and thence up and above what is now the top of the cliff. This means that the whole block DD (Plate II., Fig. 2) was forced up and over the others, whilst its place was taken by the strata which formerly had occupied the space to the right of the dotted line EF. The result is shown in Plate III., Fig. 1, of which the shaded portion shows the existing condition of the beds, the extruded portion and the rock débris, after being thrust up and over the present strata, have since been denuded off, leaving the contour of Ballard down as it now exists. The bedding plane, along which this movement took place, as well as the junction between the stationary and displaced beds of the zone, are now hidden beneath the cliff, but their probable arrangement is shown in the lines drawn in the diagram. Thus, could a section be cut at a point where the curving beds resume the horizontal



north of the fault, as at C, no sign of the fracture would be apparent except at that juncture of the bedding planes along which the thrust took place, where pulverised debris and slickenside polishing of the contiguous surfaces would doubtless be evident.

This description gives the simplest, and doubtless the most probable, explanation of the phenomenon; but it may have been produced by less simple and obvious processes. The researches of recent geologists in the Alps—that great example of the mightiest and most complex of strata distortions—have thrown much light upon faults and overthrusts. Lugeon's classical work on "The overfolding of the Alps," and Dr. Suess in his "The Face of the Earth," Vol. I., have shown that many apparently simple results were obtained by far less simple processes than were formerly supposed. It is quite possible that a more complicated folding of the upper beds, perhaps resulting in reversed folds, may have taken place at Ballard Cliff, before and during the thrusting southward of the upper beds; but if so the remains of these folds would have been pushed up and over the others and denuded away, so that no trace can now be found of them. This would, however, depend upon the distance through which the thrust took place. Presumably it was at least 400 ft., but it may have been much more. It will be observed that while ordinary faults are examples of radial earth movements, and are due, not to compression, but to the opposite—an expansion of earth surface, or rather a diminution of pressure below the strata causing a wedge-shaped mass to drop down, or a radial fracture to allow one side to sink—thrust faults are due to actual compression, and are tangential to the earth's surface. In the Purbeck district we have many examples of the former, as at Ulwell, and in the Purbeck beds in Durlleston Bay, but only one of the latter movement, which is comparatively rare in this country, and due to far more violent forces than the simple radial fault.

Another point in the formation of this fault must be noted which is—the amount of denudation of the anticline which



had occurred before the movement commenced. It is possible that denudation had proceeded to a very considerable extent, and that the amount of strata covering the present level of Ballard Down was not much greater, when the fracture occurred, than it is now. This would help to explain why the edges of the vertical strata were so easily sheared off by the moving mass, which would then be taking the line of least resistance. But had the vast mass of chalk strata remained intact (as represented in the diagram), it would offer a far greater resistance to the thrust movement than seems necessary or probable. The answer to this will depend upon how long after the upheaval of the anticline the thrust movement commenced.

## II.—AN ALTERNATIVE THEORY OF THE FAULT FORMATION.

It will be observed that the above explanation of the process by which the present relation of the strata at the fault came about, depends upon the supposition that the beds above and below the fracture unite under the present cliffs. The vertical beds would then resume the horizontal and continue northward, as indicated in Plate III., Fig. 3. As has been stated, in this case the order of beds from above downwards through the fault must be continuous, and no bed be missing unless one or two had been faulted out and thrust up; but if so they would re-appear and resume their place at some point towards C in the diagram. But further examination may possibly show that the vertical beds, which belong equally with the upper beds to the same zone, may actually be the same beds, or a portion of them, as those above. In this case an entirely different method of formation of the fault will have to be assumed, and what this process would have been is indicated in Figs. 4 and 5, Plate III. As to whether the vertical beds are lower beds of the same zone, or a repeat of the same beds as those above the fault, much will depend

upon the thickness assigned to the zone in question. Dr. Rowe gives 250ft. as the thickness exposed, which is simply the height of the cliff where the beds above the fault resume the horizontal. But to this must be added (in the first hypothesis) the thickness of the vertical strata belonging to that zone. This Dr. Rowe gives as having been identified by him for 39ft. (Plate VIII., "Zones of the Chalk," p. 36.) Dr. Barrois, however, is quoted by Dr. Strahan (*Memoirs of Geo. Survey*, p. 166) as estimating the average thickness of the *Belemnitella* zone in this district as 98ft. to 164ft. Accepting Dr. Rowe's estimate we have a thickness of at least 289ft. at Ballard Head as the total for the zone, to which must be added an unknown thickness below the exposure. This certainly seems an extreme estimate, especially in the light of Dr. Barrois' more moderate figure, which, however, is for the district of S. Dorset (see note, p. 150), and lends more colour to the supposition that the vertical beds may be identical with the lower beds of the upper portion. I proceed then to describe the manner of formation of the fault on this second hypothesis, which, from this point of view, seems the more probable.

In Plate III., Fig. 4, is shown a restoration of the monoclinical edge of the anticline as it must have existed before the start of the thrust movement. It is seen there that the horizontal or northern beds must then have been below the level of the present cliffs, and that the Tertiary Beds covered them, as in Plate II., Fig. 1, but in the inferior position, as indicated in the diagram, Plate III., Fig. 4. The line of fracture in this case will have been as at A B C (Fig. 4), and at its northern or lower extremity would have cut down through the upper beds diagonally through a portion of the Tertiaries, thus forming a wedge-shaped mass in the northern chalk beds as at D D. As the thrust movement continued this mass must have been forced bodily upwards and southwards, carrying with it and shearing off a triangular mass of the vertical beds, as at B, in the direction of the letter A. The lower end of the fracture C would

have resumed the horizontal somewhere further north than in Fig. 2, Plate II., continuing between two of the bedding planes for an unknown distance. When the movements were completed the effect shown in Fig. 5 would have been produced, the two triangular fragments (Fig. 4, B and D D) having been forced up and over the present summit of the downs, and subsequently denuded off as in the former case. With them would have been carried upwards the Tertiary Beds, as in Fig. 5, which also have since been denuded. The structure as now displayed in the cliffs would thus have been produced, as shown in the shaded portion of Fig. 5. But in the unexposed strata below sea-level its condition would be essentially different from that of the former method, as a comparison of the two diagrams, Figs. 3 and 5, will illustrate. Instead of the lower beds rapidly resuming the horizontal, as in Fig. 3, they would be cut through by a continuation of the fracture down so far as Fig. 5, C; and between them and the upper portion, as at E, we should expect to find a fragment of Tertiary strata which had been sheared off by the original fracture plane, as in Fig. 4. The possibility of this is admitted by Dr. Strahan (*op. cit.*, p. 217).

Until further evidence be produced we must admit that the two hypotheses described may either of them prove to be correct, the balance of probabilities remaining with the former, the chief objection to its acceptance being the enormous thickness of the *Belemnitella* zone which it assumes. The three points upon which information is required will then be:—(1) The nature of the vertical beds as to whether they are inferior or identical with those of the curving strata above the fracture, (2) a correct estimate of the greatest possible thickness of the *Belemnitella* zone in this section, and (3) a proof of the presence of Tertiary strata below and to the north of the lowest exposed portion of the fault in Ballard Cliff. More thorough and minute examination of the strata exposed may throw further light upon the first two points; but as to whether the problem is of sufficient interest and

importance to justify the expense of borings being made, by which alone the third question can be answered, is a matter for geologists to consider.

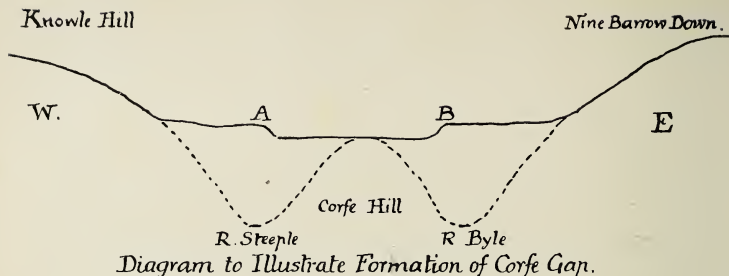
#### THE ORIGIN OF THE CORFE MONTICLE AND THE DENUDATION OF THE PURBECK ANTICLINE.

These two problems are so intimately connected that it will be convenient to treat them together. How the little conical hill on which Corfe Castle stands came to be carved out of the Purbeck chalk ridge, and the Corfe Double Gap produced by the two streams, the Byle and the Steeple, has always been a puzzle to geologists. Various explanations have been given, but at present two theories hold the field. The first is that advocated by Dr. Strahan, who considers that Corfe Hill was carved out by ancestors of the present two streams, which, draining the Purbeck anticline, cut across the chalk ridge in close proximity, and so left the hill at the centre of the gap. The late Mr. Hudleston, however, in a short article he contributed to the "Wareham Pictorial Guide" on "Corfe Castle Hill," considered that these two streams, which are really affluents of the Corfe stream, which they unite to form on the north side of the gap, were formerly united in a single channel on the south side of the hill. This is in keeping with the manner in which the rivers of the Weald of Sussex have similarly cut down their channels across the intervening chalk ridges. For two separate streams to cut separate channels for themselves through chalk within a few hundred yards of each other is an improbable phenomenon, and it is doubtful if any example of such can be produced. We therefore accept Mr. Hudleston's view, in preference to Dr. Strahan's, that the Corfe gap was originally carved out by a single stream, which afterwards became divided and cut down the double gap, the eastern opening by the Byle, and the western by the Steeple (also called the Wicken) brook, which subsequently became united into the little Corfe stream



as it now exists north of the hill. The question then arises as to what caused the separation of the streams? In a paper entitled "Dorset during the Glacial Period," recently read by Dr. Colley March before the Geological Section of the Bournemouth Natural Science Society, this subject is briefly referred to, and the suggestion is advanced that the course of the joint river was for a time (*i.e.*, during or at the close of the glacial period) blocked by sedentary ice, which piled up in the only gorge, and compelled the rising water to cut a new channel. Two difficulties present themselves to the acceptance of this view, one being the length of time during which the ice block must have continued to effect so great a change in the course of the streams, and the second that the time usually supposed to have elapsed from the close of the glacial period would hardly permit of the cutting out of the double gap through the chalk to a depth of 200ft. as it now exists. We have, therefore, ventured to seek some other explanation, and think one may be found in a consideration of the manner and progress of the denudation of the great Purbeck anticline.

A reference to Plate I., Fig. 1, will show that after upheaval of the Purbeck anticline, the trend of drainage would naturally proceed from south to north, and as the chalk was gradually denuded off, the stream flowing over what is now Corfe Gap would, so soon as the chalk was removed and lower Cretaceous strata reached, continue to cut down a channel across the present ridge. The denudation of the softer Greensand and Wealden strata would then begin to form the east and west valley which now exists, and the two streams, the Byle from the east and the Steeple from the west, would carry the *debris* of this vast mass of strata through the gap in a single stream to form the Corfe river, which flowed (as it does now) into the Frome. In all probability this gap was greatly widened for a time by estuarine or marine denudation, during a subsequent submergence of the land when the Higher Tertiary beds and some of the Oligocene strata were deposited—some of which are of estuarine and others of marine origin—remains



of which are still found at Creech Barrow.\* When the level of the land became higher again, and denudation had proceeded so far as the level of the summit of Corfe Hill, the present wide gap between Nine Barrow Down on the east and Flowers Hill on the west, would exist as indicated in the diagram above. This is now 170ft. below the summit of the chalk ridge. The channel of the then river is shown at AB—just level with the top of the monticle. At this stage the stream became divided, and the cause was probably a sudden diminution in the water supply, which would have been produced by a change in the drainage area south of the chalk ridge. It must be remembered that at this period, land extended far to the east of Swanage Bay, and far to the west of Worbarrow Bay, and that the sea had not yet reached the chalk hills which then were continuous between Ballard Head and the Needles. Both the Byle and the Steeple were then moderately sized rivers, and each brought down perhaps 50 or 100 per cent. more water than at present from this drainage area, most of which has since been destroyed by the sea. But up to this time another and rival drainage had been maintained by the ancestor of the present little Swanage river. This, originally commencing in a small stream immediately

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\* A comparison with the Tertiary and Oligocene strata tilted up against the chalk in Alum Bay makes it probable that vast beds formerly existed north of the Purbeck range.



south of the then existing chalk ridge somewhere east of Handfast Point, had also cut down a channel for itself through the chalk hills—which were then continuous to the Isle of Wight—and emptied into the Frome river in what is now Bournemouth Bay. As it cut its channel more deeply it would have drained a larger area, and it—or a westerly tributary, as the present Swanage stream may perhaps have been—would have gradually robbed the Byle of a good portion of its water supply. It is possible that the Swanage stream is really a portion of the upper eastern waters of the Byle, and that at about the period named a reversal took place, the head of the Byle being captured (far out in Swanage Bay) by the Swanage river, and thus the Byle was left a truncated and vastly diminished stream. In all probability at about the same time a similar process occurred—as denudation proceeded—at the head waters of the Steeple river in the land area which then occupied Worbarrow Bay, and was then continuous towards Weymouth Bay, before the sea had encroached to its present coast line.

The little stream which now flows west into Worbarrow Bay is probably the head of the ancient Steeple, and that now vanished land having been drained by the Steeple it flowed eastward as now, and joining the Byle proceeded through Corfe Gap. If this view be accepted, we see that at about the same time the flow through the combined streams at Corfe was diminished to an amount of perhaps a fifth to a twentieth of its former volume, and that this occurred when denudation had proceeded to the point shown in the diagram on p. 158.

From this we should find the passage A B, formerly well-filled with water, converted into a swampy morass with a few broken-up remains of the previous river trickling through several irregular channels. As, however, the Byle stream tended from its direction to hug the eastern bank of the former river channel, and the Steeple similarly its western bank, the centre of the channel would tend to dry up and form an island—which presently was to form the summit of the Corfe monticle. This may have been assisted by some special

hardness\* and resistance to denuding action of the chalk at this spot, similar to that which led to the formation of the Old Harry Rock and other chalk pinnacles. We should thus have the former single river which had carved out its one channel A B, dividing into two much smaller streams, each tending to cut down and widen a channel for itself, and leaving between them, as they gradually descended, the Corfe monticle. Its conical shape would be accounted for by the usual aids of aerial and frost denudation on each bank of the two streams as the chalk was cut away and eroded.

Doubtless when the division of the streams was first effected, the amount of water was greater than now ; it has continuously decreased until the present time, since the sea commenced encroaching upon the land area and carved out Swanage and Worbarrow Bays. It seems probable that the first step in the formation of Bournemouth Bay was the breaking of the sea through the gap in the chalk hills formed where the ancient Swanage river had cut its channel southward to join the Frome, somewhere east of Handfast Point.



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\* This hardness has been observed at Corfe Castle and recorded (v. Strahan, *op. cit.* p. 168).





BOULDER, PARKSTONE.

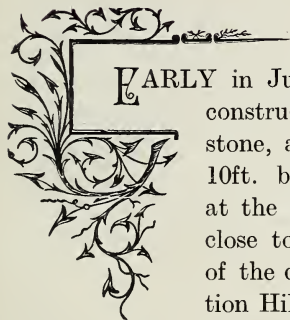


Note on a  
Large Boulder found at Branksome,  
Upper Parkstone.

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By the Rev. H. SHAEN SOLLY, M.A.

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EARLY in June, 1909, while a sewer was being constructed in Ashley-road, Upper Parkstone, a large boulder was discovered 8 or 10ft. below the surface. It was noticed at the side of the road by Mr. Le Jeune, close to Scott's woodyard, near the bottom of the dip not far from the top of Constitution Hill. It was subsequently presented by Mr. Budden, the contractor, to the Museum of the Branksome Free Library, and now reposes safely in the grounds of that Institution. Its present length is 3ft. 4in., and its greatest girth 4ft. 6in., with a weight of at least half a ton. Originally, its size and weight must have been somewhat more, especially as some portion of it was broken off before it was raised to the surface. The interest attaching to it concerns the question—How came it to be deposited where it was found? It lay in the bed of Plateau gravel which here overlies the Bagshot Sands. The

running water which deposited this gravel was not capable of transporting this block, weighing half a ton. Is there any agent other than ice capable of having done this work, and is the presence of the boulder evidence of a glaciation of Dorset? We may at once dismiss an explanation somewhat recklessly advanced, namely, that the stone was buried by human agency. The soil above it was evidently undisturbed and has never been cultivated, and to suppose that anyone would dig a hole 8ft. deep to bury a stone beneath Ashley Road is absurd. But we may ask, is it not possible that the stone lay on the top of the Bagshot sands, and was there buried beneath the Plateau gravel? I have not been able to ascertain the depth of the gravel at this point, or whether any exists under as well as over where the boulder lay. This question could easily have been answered at the time of the excavation; but inquiries made of the workmen later elicited no trustworthy information. All we can now do is to ascertain the nature of the stone itself. Is it a sarsen, or greywether, similar to the other sarsens derived from Tertiary rocks and widely scattered over the Downs of Wilts and Dorset, or is there no source in the neighbourhood from which it can have been derived, so that it must have been brought from further afield, and may fairly claim the title of an erratic? These questions are not easy to answer. Sections of the stone have been prepared for microscopic examination by Dr. H. Colley March, who has also had slides made, for purposes of comparison, from a typical sarsen lying in the Valley of Stones, near Bridehead.\* They

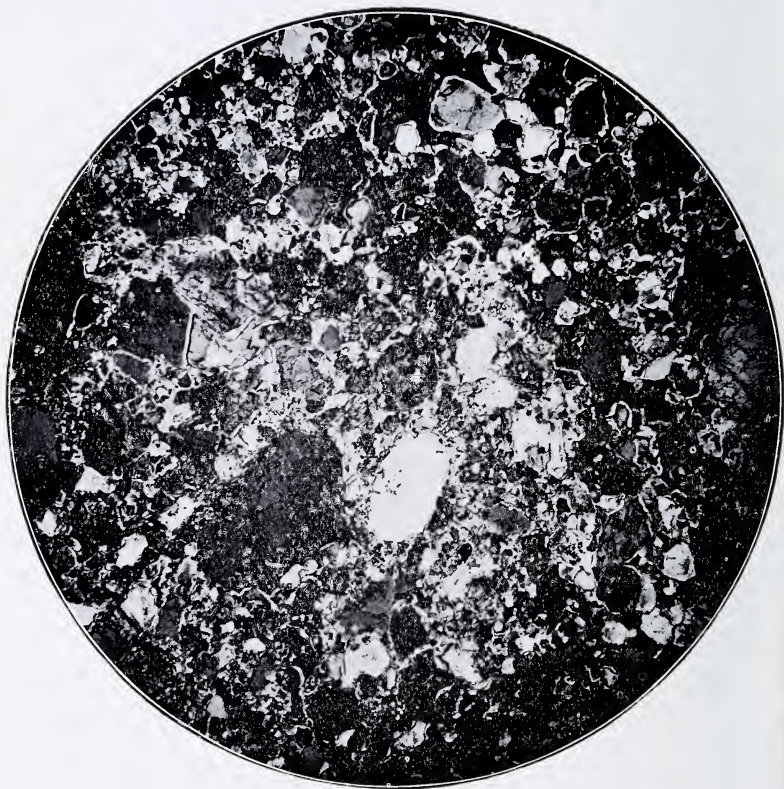
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\* Photographs of these slides, enlarged 22 diameters, have been kindly made by Dr. Flett, and are here reproduced. An interesting feature in the Branksome slide is that the rock contains many small grains of brown tourmaline, some of which are large enough to be seen with a pocket lens.

1. Bridehead sarsen, photo with crossed Nicols.
2. Same, in ordinary light.
3. Branksome boulder, photo with crossed Nicols.
4. Same, in ordinary light.



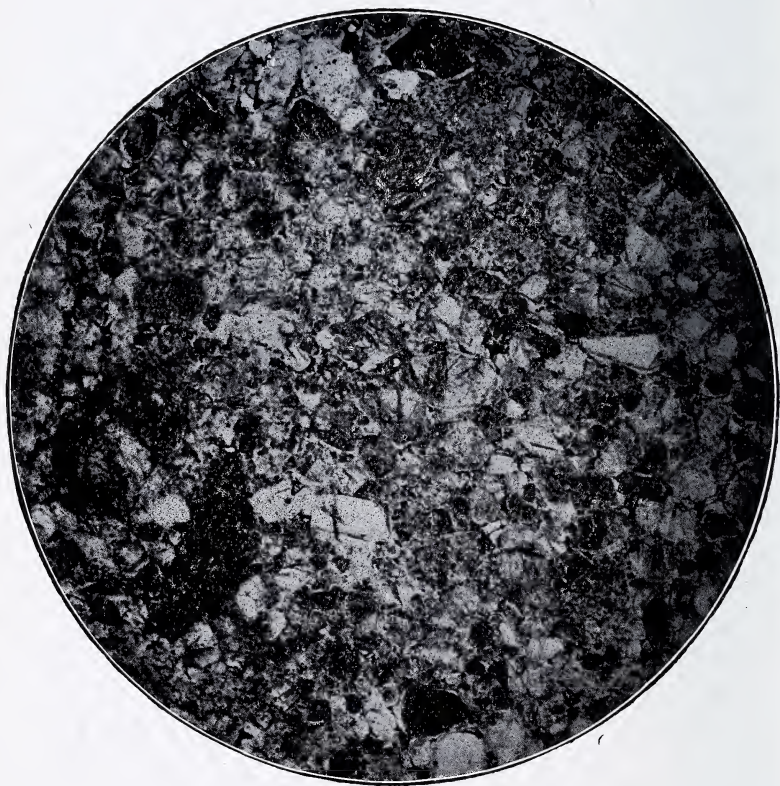




NO. 1.—BRIDEHEAD SARSEN.

*(Photo with crossed Nichols.)*





NO. 2.—BRIDEHEAD SARSEN.

*(Photo with ordinary light.)*



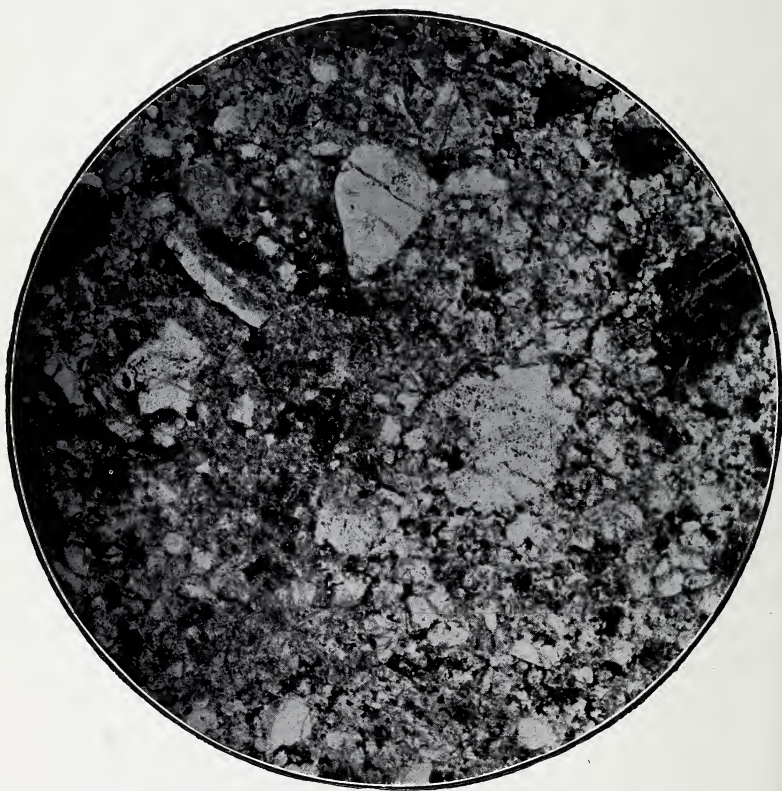


NO. 3.—BRANKSOME BOULDER.

*(Photo with crossed Nichols.)*







NO. 4.—BRANKSOME BOULDER.

*(Photo with ordinary light.)*

have been examined by Mr. William Whitaker, Dr. Hinde, and the authorities at Jermyn Street. Mr. Whitaker writes : “ I took specimen and slide to Jermyn Street and got Dr. Teall to look at them. He was struck with the great variety of the quartz grains in size and shape (under microscope), and that is not a sarsen character, the grains of these stones being fine. I then went up to the petrologic department, and Mr. Rhodes turned out a specimen which, under microscope, was rather like yours, though differing to the eye. Curiously enough, this was labelled ‘ Quartzite, Parkstone, 200ft. gravel.’ ”

After sending Mr. Whitaker the sarsen slide from Bridehead, I heard from him as follows :—“ To-day I took them to Jermyn Street, and showed them to Dr. Flett, petrologist to the Geological Survey, and we compared them with some others. Dr. Flett detected some differences between your rock and greywether-slides. In the latter the cementing material is less in quantity and is largely secondary quartz ; that is, quartz crystallised in the rock. In the former it is not so. He would, therefore, class your boulder as approximating to quartzite, and he concludes that it is not a greywether. . . . Both quartzite and greywethers vary very much.”

Dr. March is not satisfied with this conclusion. He had occasion, some years ago, to go into the subject of quartzites, granitoids, and grits, and possesses micro-sections of Haslingden grit, Gannister grit, Gritstone from Lower Coal Measures, Gritstone from Devon, and Silurian quartzite from Ireland, Normandy, and Norway. All these show resemblances to, but are easily distinguished from, our stone ; but on comparing this with the Bridehead sarsen he writes :—“ These, I maintain, are fundamentally indistinguishable, though it is true that one has more cement than the other ; but that is unimportant. I think it is true that there is more secondary quartz in the Branksome stone than in the Bridehead one, but this must certainly vary in different specimens. It is silicified Tertiary sand, and this sand is sometimes silicified

into a true quartzite, sometimes imperfectly silicified, and sometimes the sand and the gravel are not silicified at all, but quite loose, and these three stages occur almost in juxtaposition."

Apart from microscopic examination, the only kind of investigation possible was minute examination of the surface of the stone. This surface was clearly water-worn, which is not the case with ordinary sarsens. Then some of the convex curves strongly suggest glaciation. There are other marks which may represent groovings due to ice-action and deserve further investigation; but, unfortunately, no inconsiderable portion of the surface has been broken by the chipping of too curious investigators. Among the marks on the surface are two cup-shaped depressions resembling, on a small scale, the "glacier-mills" bored in hard rock by the whirling round of stones in an eddy under ice. In this connection we may compare a stone lately found at Pokesdown, and in the possession of Mr. Chambers. This has several similar depressions from one to four inches deep, and one hole 15in. long, bored right through the stone. This stone weighs about 120lb., and is 18in. long, with a width of 12in. and a depth of 9in. It was discovered near the present surface of the ground. A fine-grained, light-coloured boulder, probably a sarsen, weighing 4 or 5 cwt., was dug out some few years ago from the nursery-garden of Mr. White, on the southern slope of Constitution Hill, Parkstone. It may be seen now near a gate-post.

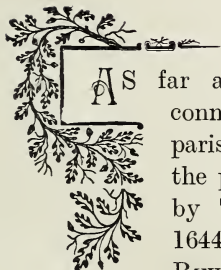
Another very large stone, weighing, I believe, about five tons, was discovered some years ago near Winchester. Another large stone, weighing about half a ton, may be seen by the side of the road in Burgess Street, at the top of Southampton Common.

As isolated facts, these tell us little. But if a complete record can be made of similar stones found in the South of England, and especially of the strata in which they occur, a good deal may be learned therefrom. It is as a contribution to such a record that the present note is offered.



## The Pitt Family of Blandford S. Mary.

By the Rev. A. C. ALMACK, M.A.



AS far as I have been able to discover, the connection of the Pitt family with the parish of Blandford S. Mary begins with the purchase of the advowson of the Rectory by Thomas Pitt, of Blandford Forum, in 1644 or '45. The previous owner was Robt. Ryves, who purchased it from Thos. Arundell, who was the original purchaser from the King after the Dissolution of S. Mary's Nunnery in Clerkenwell, to which house the manor and advowson previously belonged. This Thomas Pitt lived at Blandford, and was a brother of Sir W. Pitt, of Stratfieldsaye, in Berks, who was also owner of Steepleton, and from whom the Pitt-Rivers family are descended. Thomas Pitt bought the living of St. Mary's for the benefit of his son John in July, 1645. The Induction is duly entered in the register, and followed by the statement that he read and assented to the Articles of the Convocation of 1562. Of course this was in the troublous time of the Civil Wars ; but John Pitt does not seem to have



been molested in his living. The entries in the register go on continuously, and in the same handwriting; but between the years 1655 and 1662 the book has been reversed, and the entries made at the other end. These were the years when the use of the Prayer Book was forbidden by law. The Act of Uniformity came into force on August 24th, 1662, and our entries are resumed on the old pages in the following September. John Pitt continued as rector at St. Mary's till his death in 1672, but must have lived in an older house than the present Rectory, which was only built in 1732—the year after the Blandford fire. He is chiefly known to us by the inscription on the tablet in the church which was placed there 40 years after his father's death by his second son Thomas, of whom we shall have a good deal to say further on. He is there described as "*Hujus Ecclesiæ per Viginti Octo annos Pastor Fidelis*," and the words seem to imply that he did not relinquish his post during the troubled years of the Commonwealth. From the same source we learn that he had a family of nine children, of whom five—John, Thomas, Sarah, George, and Dorothea—survived him.

Before we pass on from this generation it may be well to mention that Thomas Pitt, of Blandford, had another son, Robert, who lived in the town and practised as a doctor, while his brother John and family lived at our Rectory. Robert Pitt had two sons—Thomas, who became a Master in Chancery, and Robert, M.D., who lived in Blandford, and was grandfather of Christopher Pitt, the poet, and translator of Virgil, who was rector of Pimperne.

To return to John Pitt at the Rectory. Judging from dates on the tablet, he was born in 1610, and became rector at the age of 35. He was probably married after he became rector in 1645. It is interesting to note that his Induction on July 31st must have nearly coincided with the gathering of Clergy and Clubmen on Hambledon Hill. The letter of Cromwell to Lord Fairfax, reporting the encounter with them, is dated August 4th. We recollect that just six weeks previously, on June 14th, the fatal Battle of Naseby was fought, and in the



July and August following, the younger Fairfax and Cromwell were marching to and fro in these parts, and had invested the Castle of Sherborne, and succeeded in capturing Bridgwater on July 23rd.

Nine children, as we have seen, were born to John and Sarah Pitt, the eldest being John, who was baptised on September 13th, 1649, the year of the King's execution. The eldest daughter was Sarah, who married the Rev. Henry Willis; and after her father's death the patronage of the living was settled upon her, at the time of her marriage, by her two uncles, William, of Dorchester, and Robert, of Blandford, who had received it in trust from their brother John, the Rector. In 1674—two years after her father's death—she appears to have presented to the living her husband, and on his death their son Robert became rector and eventually patron. By him—the Rev. Robert Willis—the present Rectory was built in 1732. On his death the patronage passed to his sister, who had married John Burrough, and with that family it remained till 1850. It then passed by purchase into other hands.

We come now to speak of the Rector's second son, Thomas Pitt, who is the person on whom the chief interest of this paper rests. He is generally known to history as Governor Pitt. He was born at St. Mary's in June, 1653, and lived to the age of 73 years. He would, therefore, have been seven years old when the King was restored in 1660, and nearly 33 when Monmouth lost his cause on Sedgemoor, and wandered a fugitive and outlaw over the Dorset hills. But it would seem that some years before that date young Thomas Pitt had begun to seek his fortune in the far East, and to find occupation, profit, and excitement in the career of an unlicensed trader in the Indian seas. In those days the right to trade with India was the exclusive privilege of the East India Company, which had obtained its first charter in 1600. When we first hear of him in those seas, he apparently possessed several ships of his own, and was engaged in a system of trade which the company considered to be in distinct violation

of their own rights. Their officials strongly resented his intrusion, and under the name of an "interloper" he is frequently spoken of with severe complaint in the despatches sent home. Madras, or Fort St. George, as it was then known, was the chief "factory" of the Company on the Eastern coast, and the governor of that place was Sir Strensham Master. A gentleman, who is directly descended from Sir Strensham, lent to me a book published by the Hakluyt Society, which contains various letters and documents bearing directly on this early part of the history of Thomas Pitt. This book is the Diary of Sir W. Hedges, an Indian official who collected materials for the history of Madras, which in the end he never wrote. From this diary many of my facts are drawn.

For nine years Pitt seems to have been a thorn in the side of Sir Strensham. At one time he ordered him peremptorily to leave the country; but Pitt seems to have disregarded all such warning, and to have come and gone pretty well as he pleased. He is spoken of by the Governor as "that roughly and immoral man," and his trade is termed "pyrottical." No doubt it was difficult in the early days for the Company to enforce all the authority which the English Government had intended to bestow, and the jealous rivalry of the Dutch afforded encouragement and shelter to any enemies; but on the extension of the Charter in 1661, and the cession of Bombay to them in 1668, the power and prestige of the Company was no doubt greatly increased.

Taking up again the records of Pitt's adventurous life, we find him in England in 1681—the year of Lord Shaftesbury's trial—and back in India and making money fast in 1682; again returning in 1683 to the old country. We then seem to lose sight of him for five years, and in 1688 find that he has purchased the estate of Old Sarum, and is returned as one of the members for that borough in the Convention Parliament. He and Mr. J. Young, his fellow member, were soon unseated, presumably for corruption, but in the following year he was duly elected for New Sarum, and entered

Parliament. Business calls soon necessitated a return to India, though he does not appear to have vacated his seat. At this point comes the curious and sudden change in his career when the Company at last gave up the contest with him and others, whom they had regarded as "interlopers," and after negotiating a purchase of all their interests, enrolled them as members; and then finding the value of Pitt's experience and talents, gave him, in 1689, the commanding position of Governor of Madras. The appointment was made while he was in England, and he landed as Governor Pitt in 1698, which is the date at which the Dropmore Papers begin. These are the papers collected by Lord Grenville, whose wife was the last of this branch of the family. They are now in the possession of J. B. Fortescue, Esq., and were lately published by Historical MSS. Commission.

During all these years Pitt seems to have prospered greatly in money matters, and from 1688 onward we find him eager to invest money in land in the West Country, and mentioning Dorset, Wilts, and Berks with particular favour. We have already mentioned his purchase of Old Sarum, where a memorial of him still exists in the restored church tower, which bears his name in large capitals, and the Manor House—now the Vicarage—where he often resided and his son after him, which bears an inscription over the door, as placed by him, *Parva sed apta domino*. His agent in all these purchases was Sir Stephen Evance, and in one of his letters to this gentleman in 1704 we find the first mention of land purchased in "the place where I was born," Blandford St. Mary, but what land this was I have been unable so far to ascertain. He says that he wishes his wife "to receive income from his land at Old Sarum and Blandford S. Mary, and that he will not allow her or her children one penny more, and that he may tell her that if she cannot live on that she may starve, and all her children with her." But it is quite clear that at this time he had not secured the old Manor of the parish, which had been possessed by the family of Chettle since the time of the Dissolution of the Clerkenwell

Nuns. The negotiations for this purchase went on for a long time, and are repeatedly mentioned up to 1710, when he at last acquired the estate. After this purchase the demolition of a house is spoken of, which was presumably the old Chettle Manor House, standing at the end of the avenue on the right of the hill coming up from the Brewery, where the traces of the foundation are still visible.

In the letters we hear frequently of "my house at Blandford S. Mary," but nothing more definite as to its position or name is stated. There seems good reason, however, to suppose that the older part of the present "Down House" is what he refers to, and that it was erected by him about this time. Subsequently he also purchased lands on the other side of the Stour, Keynston, Preston, &c., which were sold to him by his cousin George Morton Pitt, and are still part of the Down House Estate.

Other estates acquired by Governor Pitt were at Okehampton, in Devon, and Swallowfield, in Berks; but his greatest purchase of all, and one that gave him subsequently much trouble, was that of Boconnoc, in Cornwall. He bought it from the executors of Lord Mohun, who fell in one of the most notorious duels of those days, when he and his opponent, the Duke of Hamilton, both were killed, in the year 1712. In after years Boconnoc became the chief family residence, and it is there that the portrait of this remarkable man is still preserved, in which he is drawn with the famous diamond in his hat. And here we may perhaps well add the tale of this historic gem, which is so often mentioned in the correspondence and usually called "my grand concern." The care of it and the seeking of a purchaser was a source of endless anxiety to him, and he was latterly so annoyed with the various stories reported in social circles about his original acquisition of the treasure, that he wrote a careful account for the perusal and use of his executors. The whole document is in the Dropmore papers. The gem was found in a mine near the Kistna river by a coolie, who hid it in a wound in his leg, round which I suppose a bandage

was tied. The man made off with his prize to the coast and took passage in a small trading vessel. Suffering from nervous fears, he confided his secret to the skipper, and the skipper without scruple, according to the account, secured the gem and put the poor fellow overboard. He soon sold it to a dealer who was known to Governor Pitt, and who had instructions from him to look out for profitable treasures of any sort. A long haggle went on between Pitt and the dealer, and Pitt confesses to have beaten him down again and again, but at last agreed to pay a sum equal to about £20,000 of English money. The gem was taken home by his son Robert with the most minute orders about the way in which he was to take care of it. It is again and again mentioned in the letters, and at one time he names £800,000 as its supposed value. He offered it for sale to all the Sovereigns and rich men of Europe. In the end it was bought in 1713 for £135,000 by the Duke of Orleans, who in 1715 became Regent of France during the minority of Louis XV. It has, therefore, often been called the Regent Diamond. On the death of the Duke it became one of the Crown jewels, and in the time of the Revolution (1793) it was seized as national property. Then comes a curious story of its being stolen and recovered with other jewels from a ditch on the outskirts of Paris. Napoleon, when First Consul, pawned it for a time to a firm of Dutch bankers, and afterwards redeemed it, and it figured in his Coronation as Emperor on December 2nd, 1804, by the Pope; but whether it shone in the diadem, or whether it adorned the hilt of the Emperor's sword, is a question about which the records vary. Since then the only mention of it seems to be its inclusion in the inventory of jewels made by the Minister of Finance in 1881, and it appears that it now rests in a strong box in the cellars of his office in Paris.

So much for the diamond. We return to Governor Pitt. He left India finally in 1710, and afterwards resided in turn at the various houses on his estates. We have already mentioned his restoration of the church at Old Sarum in



1713, and he appears to have done the same just previously at Blandford St. Mary, where the memorial tablet, which mentions the virtues of his parents and the facts of his own wandering life and pious restorations, bears the date 1712. His death took place at Swallowfield, near Reading, on April 28th, 1726, and he was buried at Blandford St. Mary on May 21st.

The wife of this strange character—a man of fortune and wide travel—was a woman of good position and connection. She was a daughter of Sir James Innis, of Reidhall, in the county of Moray, and her mother was Lady Grizel Stuart, daughter of the Earl of Moray. She and her husband can hardly be said to have lived in great harmony together, and she outlived him only nine months, dying in January, 1727. Robert, the eldest son, after his father's death, resided chiefly at Boconnoc, and died there in 1736. He had married Harriet Villiers, sister of Earl Grandison, and two sons were born to them—Thomas, the eldest, who inherited Boconnoc and most of the landed estates, and William, who became the great orator and Statesman so well known as Earl of Chatham. There is a tradition that the Great Commoner was born at the Manor House at Stratford-under-Castle, but I can find no trace of his ever being at Blandford St. Mary, though it is not unlikely that he attended the funeral of his father, who certainly lies buried in the church.

The second son of Governor Pitt was Thomas, who married a daughter of Robt. Ridgway, Earl of Londonderry, a descendant of one of the first colonists planted by Elizabeth in N. Ireland. On the decease of the Earl, Thos. Pitt was created a Baron, and later in 1726 was advanced to a viscounty and earldom of the same title as his father-in-law. He was M.P. at various times for Wilton and Old Sarum, and in 1727 was appointed Governor of the Leeward Islands, and after not quite two years of office died at St Kits on September 12th, 1727. So great was the regard paid to the old Dorset home that the body was brought over the ocean and laid beside his father in St. Mary's Church, where the coffin was



seen and identified, with others, during the restoration in 1863. He left two sons, Thomas and Ridgway, who each in turn became earls, and are also buried at St. Mary's. Neither left issue, and the earldom in that family became extinct.

The family property at Blandford St. Mary and on the other side of the Stour descended with the Cornish and other estates to the head of the family. On the death of Robert Pitt, who held office in the household of the Prince of Wales, all passed to his eldest son, Thomas—the brother of Lord Chatham. He died in 1761 shortly after the accession of George III. and before the first resignation of his great Statesman brother. He was succeeded by his eldest son, also Thomas Pitt, who took an important part in the business of the House of Commons, and is mentioned on various occasions in the public life of his most distinguished cousin, William the great Prime Minister. In 1782 we find him opposing a motion for Parliamentary reform, introduced by the Prime Minister, on the ground that the motion was inadequate and too vague and not from any opposition on principle, though the existence of the pocket-boroughs, of which he was one of the largest owners, was notoriously at stake. In the following year a similar motion was brought forward, and he gave it strong support, referring pointedly to his own position and adding that he was willing to surrender Old Sarum into the hands of the Parliament “as a free sacrifice, and a victim to be offered up at the shrine of the British Constitution.” He suggested further that the right to send two members might well be transferred to the Bank of England—surely an odd suggestion. The resolution was defeated by 293 votes to 149, but the part taken by the Pitt family in the question of Reform is of special interest. Within two years after this debate the King consented to the creation of some new peerages at the request of his Minister, and two of them went to Cornish gentlemen. Thomas Pitt was created Lord Camelford, and Edward Eliot became Lord St. Germans.

Towards the end of his life Lord Camelford went to live at Florence, and shortly before his death in 1793 he wrote a letter to his cousin the Prime Minister on a subject which has a peculiar interest. It was a very cautious but kindly application for help in money for the widow of the young Pretender, Charles Edward, who was then at Florence in a condition of absolute penury. The letter did not reach till after Lord Camelford's death. Nothing apparently was done then, but later—in 1800—on the proposal of W. Pitt, a yearly pension was granted to Cardinal York, the Pretender's brother.

Now we come to the last members of the family who held the Blandford St. Mary property—the second Lord Camelford and his sister, who married Lord Grenville. Lord Camelford was born in 1779, and therefore succeeded his father at the age of 14. He seems to have been a somewhat hot-headed and eccentric young man, who separated himself from the politics of his family, and has left the character of a notorious duellist. In January, 1800, when he had only just reached his majority and taken his seat, we find him, in company of five other lords, voting against an address moved by his brother-in-law, Lord Grenville. The object of the address was to agree with the Cabinet of Mr. Pitt, in declining to treat for peace with France in an irregular fashion, and without the support of England's great Continental Allies. Lord Camelford, in company with the Duke of Bedford and Lord Holland, was in a minority of 6 to 92.

There is also a story of his taking part in a debate on Reform, which he advocated, as his father had done, when he threatened to send his negro footman into Parliament as Member for one of his rotten boroughs, in order to bring the whole system into contempt. A tradition, too, of a duel lingers about a certain pond in the Down House grounds, and he ended his life at the early age of 25 in a duel fought in Hyde Park. The estates then all passed to his sister, Lady Grenville, and her husband seems for a time to have administered them for her, but very shortly the whole of the

land in these parts was sold to Sir John Smith, Bart., of St. Nicholas Sydling, and is now in the possession of his descendant, Sir William Smith-Marriott. It may, perhaps, be of some interest to add that the house now known as the Manor House had a small estate attached to it, which descended through Hussys or Browns to a Sir John Forster, whose arms are still to be seen on the ceiling of the hall, and by him it was sold to Mr. Pitt in 1755, and has since then been part and parcel of the Down House property.





## The Story of the Bettiscombe Skull.\*

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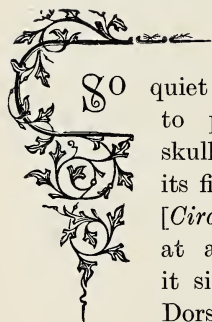
By J. S. UDAL, F.S.A.

(Read March 2nd, 1910.)

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### PART I.

#### BETTISCOMBE : THE LEGEND OF THE SKULL

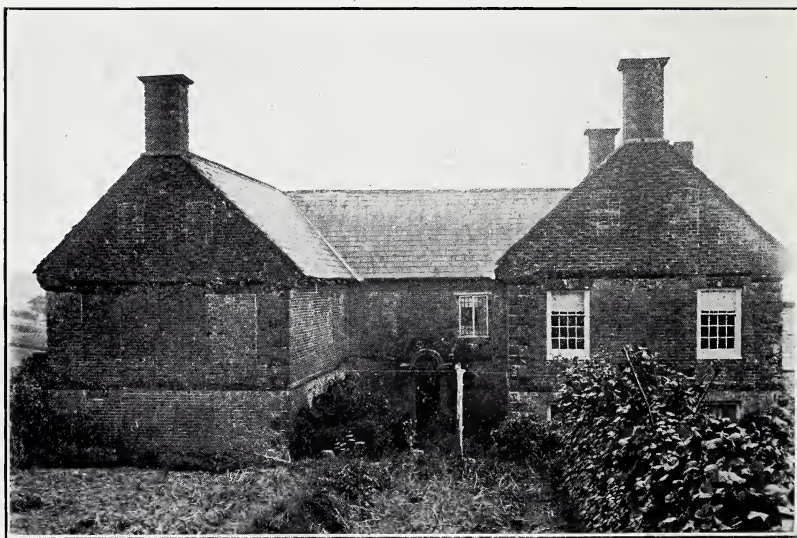


SO quiet and unobtrusive was the introduction to public notice of the story of this old skull that in the reference which heralded its first appearance in "Notes and Queries" [*Circa* 1872] (4th Series X., 183) no mention at all was made of its local *habitat*. I sent it simply as the record of a matter of pure Dorset folk-lore, a subject in which I was as keen then as I am now, and I have been collecting ever since ; so that my readers may imagine what a mass of more or less undigested material those intervening years must have brought me.

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\* See "Notes and Queries" (4th Series, X., 183); and "Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries," Vol. II., p. 249; VIII., pp. 308, 343; IX., pp. 315, 350, 352.





BETTISCOMBE HOUSE.



My first note was in this wise :—

At a farmhouse in Dorsetshire at the present time, is carefully preserved a human skull, which has been there for a period long antecedent to the present tenancy. The peculiar superstition attaching to it is that if it be brought out of the house the house itself would rock to its foundations, whilst the person by whom such an act of desecration was committed would certainly die within the year. It is strangely suggestive of the power of this superstition that through many changes of tenancy and furniture the skull still holds its accustomed place “unmoved and unremoved !”

Upon this the late Dr. Goodford, Provost of Eton, wrote to “Notes and Queries” (p. 436) inquiring whether I had not made a mistake as to the county, and stating that there was a similar superstition attaching to a house at Chilton Cantelo, in the adjoining county of Somerset.

I may say here that the superstition, or variants of it, attaching to this skull is not by any means peculiar to Dorset, or even the West of England.

I accordingly replied to Dr. Goodford (p. 509) giving him further particulars, both as to the locality and what I had heard of and about the skull. I there stated :—

The farmhouse (formerly, I believe, an old Manor house), now called Bettiscombe House, in which the skull remained or still remains for aught I know to the contrary, lies in the parish of Bettiscombe, about six miles from Bridport, in Dorsetshire. I cannot ascertain the time when this “ghostly tenant” took up its abode in the place, but it is tolerably certain it was some considerable time ago. It has, I understand, been pronounced to be that of a negro; and the legend runs that it belonged to a faithful black servant of an early possessor of the property—a Pinney—who, having resided abroad some years, brought home this memento of his humble follower. It is reported that a member of the above family in recent years has visited the house, but was unable to give any clue that might assist in clearing up the identity of the skull.

In 1883, some ten or a dozen years afterwards, I ascertained from the *Bridport News* that a correspondent in a paper called *The Oracle* had alluded to the superstition existing with respect to the skull at Chilton Cantelo, and the Editor

had also referred to the similar one attaching to Bettiscombe in terms no doubt taken from my earlier contributions to "Notes and Queries." In the same year also the subject was mentioned in the *Daily News*, for a correspondent of the *Dorset County Chronicle* in February of that year made enquiries relating to the skull at Chilton Cantelo, which drew a reply from Mr. A. J. Goodford (a son, I believe, of my former fellow-correspondent), who gave certain particulars as to the Somerset skull.

I will now take up the story with regard to its Dorset rival.

In the second series of "Haunted Homes," issued in 1884, Dr. F. A. Ingram quotes an account of the Bettiscombe Skull from an essay written by Mr. William Andrews on "Skull Superstitions," in the course of which the story is related of a visit paid to Bettiscombe Farm by Dr. Richard Garnett, his daughter, and a friend. The particulars reported as having been gathered by this party contained some new details, namely, the skull was that of a negro servant who had lived in the service of a Roman Catholic priest, and there were dark hints of a murder. The negro had declared before his death that his spirit would not rest unless his body were taken to his native land and buried there. On his burial in the Bettiscombe churchyard, the haunting began; fearful screams proceeded from the grave; strange sounds were heard all over the house, and the inmates had no rest until the body was dug up. Subsequent attempts to dispose of it were followed by similar results.

This was the first time I had ever heard anything of the kind, or that the owner of the skull had been the servant of a Roman Catholic priest, and that there had been any idea of foul play in the matter, or that there had ever been any skeleton other than the head in the house. My information had been mainly derived from an old lady in Dorset (still living), who in her younger days had often visited and stayed at the old manor-house at Bettiscombe, and who had learnt and treasured up the legend as she had first heard it before time and publicity had lent a somewhat heightened and conjectural

aspect to the tradition. From her I subsequently received an indignant protest against these innovations. I have also myself several times endeavoured to refute in periodicals and otherwise this attribute of "screaming," but, apparently, to little purpose; for only a year or two ago this same old lady sent me a copy of a periodical called *The World and His Wife*, in which appeared an illustrated article of "Old Haunted Houses," by Mr. C. G. Harper, whom we know in connection with our own county as the author of "The Hardy Country," published in the "Pilgrimage Series" in 1904.

The account given in this work agrees with that quoted from Dr. Ingram's "Haunted Houses," excepting the mention of a Roman Catholic priest as having been the negro's master. About the same time "Pearson's Magazine" contained a graphic description of the Screaming Skull of Burton Agnes Hall, Yorkshire; to which was appended a note to the effect that "another 'Screaming Skull' is preserved at Bettiscombe in Dorsetshire," and giving the same details referred to by Dr. Ingram.

So much for this sensational and, I believe, thoroughly unearned attribute to the very quiet-looking emblem of mortality known as the "Bettiscombe Skull," and I will now give you an account of a visit I paid to it myself a little later in point of time than the visit of Dr. Garnett's party, and the account of which appeared in the "Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries" (p. 252 to 255).

I happened to be in the neighbourhood, and not having at that time seen the abiding-place of the "famous skull," about which I had written some years previously, I determined to make an effort to do so; and lest I should, by my visit, invoke the spell of any "malign influence," I took with me the rector of the parish and a neighbouring clergyman who happened to be with him at the time. Thus accompanied and protected, I arrived at the manor-house (situated in the Vale of Marshwood—that vale as to which Hutchins quaintly observed, upwards of a century ago, "few gentry ever resided in this tract"—and nestling at the foot of a picturesque combe not far from Dorset's highest point—the famous Pilsdon Pen)—evidently an early Georgian restoration of a much earlier building, as the oak beams in the hall—of considerable age—abundantly testified. The house boasted of a handsome oak staircase;

but, if I remember rightly, the painted panelling was apparently of no older date than such restoration. Up this stair-case we were courteously conducted, and on arriving at a small door on the top landing opening on to the attic stairs a candle was lighted, and we prepared to make the ascent to the darker regions above, where the skull was supposed to dwell. To my surprise I found, on the door being opened, from one of the steps "the skull sat grinning at us," as related by Miss Garnett. On inquiry, I learnt that the skull had been placed there in order to save going up to the attic where it formerly rested, which, owing to the ruinous condition of the timbers, was a journey of no inconsiderable danger. However, the present situation not being at all in character with the *genius loci*, and the good "woman of the house" being besides somewhat fearful of its being carried off by one of the dogs from where it stood, I had little difficulty in obtaining her permission to reinstate the skull in its former place. So, taking it in my hands, I carefully picked my way by the aid of the lighted candle, followed by my companions, over the crazy and broken floor to where, on a niche by the side of the huge chimney-breast, lay a brick—the old shrine of the skull—upon which I reverently placed it; and there I had the satisfaction of seeing it on more than one visit in later years. Upon one of these subsequent visits I, with others, made a careful examination of the skull; and we were inclined to doubt whether it was that of a negro at all, but as the generally received opinion is that it is I will say no more upon that point. The skull was by no means a large one; the forehead certainly was low but not receding. The upper half of the cranium only was preserved, the lower jaw being missing; its length was  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ins., and in depth to roof of mouth 5 ins. (full). From a phrenological point of view the "bumps" at the base were highly developed. If I remember rightly, there were no teeth left in the jaw when I saw it.

So much for the skull itself. Its surroundings were certainly of a character to add to the mystery of its existence there. The dark attic extended over the entire area of the house; the floor was in a very unsound and unsafe condition, and evidently, from its appearance, had long been the home of bats, owls, and other "fearful fowl," for which easy access was afforded by the many openings in the ancient, massive, and dilapidated stone-tiled roof; to say nothing of a nest of young birds I myself discovered close to the skull's resting-place. Close to the chimney-breast above-mentioned is a rectangular hole or shaft in the floor, of about 3 ft. by 4 ft. 6 in., and of considerable depth, extending to the bottom of the floor below, where the back of a bed-room cupboard touches. At first I thought that this cupboard was an old-fashioned "powder-closet," but after careful examination I was inclined to think that it might have had some connection with the aforesaid shaft, which may well have been intended for and used as a "priest's hole" or hiding-place in the earlier and more troublous times that might have fallen upon Bettiscombe, as upon so many other places in the West of England. This conjecture is borne out by the fact that one end of the vast attic is divided off by a lath-and-plaster

partition in which was inserted a small doorway, constituting a chamber of about 15ft. by 12ft. immediately under the tiles, and containing a small, round, brick fire-place with two window apertures at the end, which were stopped up. This would have formed a secure retreat from any sudden surprise, when, if danger became more imminent by a threatened search of the house, it might be averted by a timely resort to the "hole!" Of course it may have had other uses, but a better place of concealment or confinement can hardly have been imagined.

From time to time I have heard other rumours as to the ownership of the skull, one amongst them that it belonged to a young lady who had died, or had been made away with, after a long period of confinement in the house. To this story, if the skull be that of a woman, the existence of this partitioned-off chamber lends a certain amount of corroboration; but of the negro variant, as related by Miss Garnett, I do not remember ever to have heard.

Whatever may be its origin, the superstition is still, I will not say believed in, but sufficiently established to afford protection to the skull around which it elings; an amusing instance of which I can relate. A former tenant of the farm once, in incredulity or in anger, threw the skull into a duck-pond opposite the house. A few mornings afterwards he was observed stealthily raking out the pond until he had fished up the skull, when it was returned to its old place in the house. It was said that Farmer G. had had a bad time of it during the interval and had been much disturbed by all kinds of noises! Whether these noises were caused by any other agency than that of the bats, owls, &c., before mentioned, operating upon a conscience rendered unusually susceptible by such a terrible "act of desecration," this deponent knoweth not. Suffice it to say that there the skull rests in its accustomed place, there—in the words of Macaulay—

"To witness if I lie."

And there may it long remain to attract and awe those visitors and lovers of folk-lore whose reverent feelings may lead them to make a pious pilgrimage to its shrine, but not, let us hope, to the annoyance of the "good woman of the house," who must find it hard sometimes to retain her good nature under the many inquisitive and often irreverent remarks of her visitors.

I have recently endeavoured to turn these pilgrimages to some practical account; and on my last visit to Bettiscombe before leaving Dorset I procured a "Visitors' Book," on the fly-leaf of which I wrote the account of the history of the skull and its superstition as I had first heard it, and as it appeared in "Notes and Queries" some twenty years ago.

I further suggested to the good wife of the occupant of the farm (who was the churchwarden of the parish, which had little but the offerings of a very limited agricultural class to support its church) that a box should be kept in the hall for the purpose of obtaining contributions for the much-needed repairs on the church from such visitors as might be willing to make some slight return



for the kindness with which they are invariably received and shown over the house. After laying the "foundation coin" of this new charity I turned my back on the old house, feeling assured that its "ghostly tenant" would no longer pine for burial when by staying above ground it might afford the means of benefitting that church in whose soil it ought now to be resting.

I there added that in the *Bridport News* of September, 1890, appeared some verses on "The Skull at Bettiscombe," from a Lyme Regis correspondent, which afforded evidence that the writer was aware of the suggested negro origin of the skull and of the story that it had at one time been thrown into the water. These lines, though not devoid of literary merit, were written in rather too jocular and flippant a vein for me to include them in my more serious collection of matters bearing on the subject.\*

During a short holiday which I spent in England in 1906 I paid another visit to Bettiscombe, and found matters in much the same condition as when I was there last. The property, which had for some time parted from the possession of the Pinney family, had again recently changed hands, and another tenant acted as the custodian of the skull. This good lady, apparently for the convenience of her visitors, kept the skull safe from injury in a band-box, but the whole was kindly produced for my inspection; whilst I found that the old attics to which I had on my earlier visit reverently returned it were as ruinous and dangerous to traverse as ever. Perhaps this was the reason for the change in the skull's resting-place, but it had a depressing effect upon me though at this time I was aware, of course, of the greater interest that might justly be attributed to the skull in connection with my recent discoveries in the Island of Nevis, which will form the subject of the second part of this paper. I felt that the charm of the old associations had, for me, in great measure departed.

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\* *Conf*: an interesting parallel to this superstition amongst the natives of British New Guinea which I gathered from a Blue-Book on the affairs of that dependency (1899) and an account of which I sent to "Notes and Queries" (7th Series X., 461).



Matters, too, were not improved by finding that the object for which I had instituted the "Visitors' Book" had evidently not been achieved. There were but few names in it, and I could only imagine that it must have been servants and not the village charities who had meanwhile benefitted by the largesse of the benevolent. May I hope that the opportunity of the skull doing some good whilst it does remain above ground may presently be recovered ?

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## PART II.

### NEVIS : THE STORY OF THE SKULL AND ITS OWNERS.

It must be seen from what has been said that considerable interest has always been attached to the person to whom the skull belonged, and that it has been generally accepted that it had "belonged to a faithful black servant of an early possessor of the property—a Pinney—who, having resided abroad some years, brought home this memento of his humble follower."

In my paper in the "Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries," it will be remembered that I had thrown some doubt as to the skull being of a negroid character at all ; but the other is the more generally received opinion, and it is upon that being the correct one that the interest of this part of my story attaches.

In my capacity of Chief Justice of the Colony it is my duty to go on Circuit from time to time to the principal Presidencies constituting the Leeward Islands, and in February, 1903, I was on duty in Nevis. One day on passing through a sugar plantation there I by chance inquired its name, and was informed that it was called "Pinney's" ; and further inquiry elicited the fact that until about a century ago it had belonged to a family of that name. The story of the Bettiscombe

skull at once flashed across my memory, and I thought how strange—and withal interesting—it would be if I had come across the actual home or source of the legend !

A day or two later I was paying a visit to Fig Tree church in the same island to inspect the marriage register of the great Nelson and his widow-bride—Mrs. Nisbet—when, on entering the edifice, which had been restored a few decades ago, my attention was arrested by a handsome marble armorial slab inserted in the floor of the centre aisle, bearing a long Latin inscription in memory of John Pinney, only son and heir of Azariah Pinney. Both father and son were styled “ Armiger.” The latter is stated to have been born on May 3rd, 1686 ; to have served several high offices in the island, including that of *Capitalis Judiciarius* (Chief Justice) (all of which offices were, of course, abolished since, if not before, the federation of the Leeward Islands in 1871) ; to have married in 1708 one Mary Helme ;\* and to have died on December 11th, 1720, leaving him surviving “ duos puerulos, filiulam unam,” which, genealogically speaking, means two sons and a daughter. The old-fashioned name of “ Azariah ” Pinney at once struck me as familiar, and as peculiarly applicable to the many Puritans in West Dorset ; and a reference to my Hutchins’ “ Dorset ” on my return to Antigua told me that it was one of the family names borne by the old owners of Bettiscombe and Blackdown. The arms, too, engraved on the stone are the same as those mentioned by Hutchins as belonging to the Dorset Pinneys, namely, *Gules : three crescents or, from each a cross-crosslet fitchée argent.*

Here was indeed a find and a great help towards the theory that I was beginning to form as to how a negro skull—if negro it was—could have got to Bettiscombe !

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\* These Helmes must have been connected with persons of that name in Gillingham, Co. Dorset, for in the Nevis “ Common Records,” Vol. II. (1740), is registered a Power of Attorney from Thomas Helme, of Gillingham, in the County of Dorset, Butcher, to John Frederick Pinney, Esq., and others in America (*sic*).

Hutchins (3rd Ed., Vol. II., p. 276—s.v. “Bettescombe”) states as follows :—

“A farm here of about £150 per annum was leased to the Pinneys. Azariah Penney, Esq., built a handsome house here, and on his death was succeeded by his cousin, John Frederick Pinney, Esq., M.P. for Bridport. He died 1762, without issue, and his estate descended to his nephew, John Pretor, who assumed the name of Pinney and was Sheriff of this county, 1764.”

Further, a brass plate on the wall of Bettiscombe church gives (amongst others) the name of “Azariah Pynney of Nevis, Esq. (youngest son of John Pynney, of Bettiscombe, Clerk, sometime Vicar of Broadwindsor), Ob. 1719, age 58, buried in London.”

But how did Azariah Pinney come to be described as of Nevis? It is true that the result of the troubles which ensued between King and Parliament, and later, when religious factions became so intolerant and bitter, was that many estates in these new Colonies were granted out to English settlers, and that many emigrants came out to commence life anew in what was then a new world. But there was still another way. Before the great negro expatriation began, so as to afford labour for the American and West Indian plantations, we hear of numbers of convicts being sent out from England to cultivate those plantations, the victims of harsh laws and harsher judges, the common respite from or alternative to execution. The Puritan name “Azariah” might almost have prepared one for the sequel, for no doubt could be felt upon which side he would be found in any conflict of creeds.

Accordingly one is not surprised to find the name of “Azarias Pinney, of Axminster,” occurring amongst those 251 persons who were convicted of high treason at Dorchester on September 16th, 1685, at the conclusion of the Monmouth rebellion, and who was sentenced by Judge Jeffreys to be executed at Bridport with twelve others, “the sheriff to see execution done according to his orders.” It is interesting to note that amongst those who were sentenced as above, but

as to whom neither place nor time of execution had been ordered—"all which were carried back to be kept in safe Custody till further Orders are taken for their disposal"—appears the name of "John Pinney."\*

Whatever might have become of John Pinney it would seem from the above extract that the fate of Azarias Pinney was sealed and the death sentence carried out.

Shortly afterwards I mentioned the result of my discoveries to Miss Julia Huggins, an old lady who lives at "Montravers," the mansion or big house of the sugar plantation of "Pinneys"—and who is the sole surviving grand-daughter of Edward Huggins, who had purchased the estate, as already mentioned, about a century ago, from the Pinney family, who evinced great interest in the inquiry which I was making, and sent me later the following extract from a book entitled "Under the Blue Flag, or the Monmouth Rebellion," by Mary E. Palgrave :

"1688, James II.

"Azariah Pinney, to Mr. Jerome Nipho, who shipped him to Nevis to work on his plantation on board the 'Rose Pink.'

"A. Pinney was from Bettiscombe, nr. Lyme Regis."

It would seem, therefore, as if the death sentence on Azariah Pinney had been commuted, for it was no uncommon thing, I believe, for judges in those days—and for Judge Jeffreys in particular—to make large sums of money by disposing of their convicts to persons who would send them to work on their plantations abroad. If this story from Miss Palgrave's book be true it would account for the fact that an Azariah Pinney was living in Nevis at the end of the seventeenth century. But he must soon have emerged from the condition of a "white slave" in Nevis to that of a landowner—and a landowner of some means—to have been able to purchase a

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\* See "A further account of the Proceedings against the Rebels in the West of England," September 11th, 1685. (Reprinted from a contemporary broad-sheet in the possession of Mr. A. M. Broadley in "S. and D. N. and Q.," Vol. VIII., p. 226 (1903).

sugar estate containing a large number of acres, and to which he had, apparently, given his name.\*

Hutchins states, as we have seen, that Azariah Pinney left his estate in Bettiscombe (he does not allude to the exodus to the West Indies, the story being apparently unknown to him) on his death to his cousin, John Frederick Pinney, M.P. for Bridport, who, dying in 1762, left it again to his nephew (it should be *cousin*), John Pretor, who assumed the name of Pinney and was sheriff of Dorset in 1764.

But the identification of this Azariah Penney of Hutchins with Azariah Pinney of Nevis is very convincing to my mind. I am in possession of evidence obtained in Nevis that estates there became the property of this John Frederick Pinney, which, on his death in 1762, passed to a John Pinney, who came out to Nevis in 1764, the date Hutchins gives as that of his shrievalty of Dorset, and whose son, John Frederick (the second), parted with the Nevis estates to Edward Huggins, of Nevis, in 1810 or 1811.

In an old "Plantation Book," kindly lent to me whilst I was in Nevis by Miss Huggins, appears an inventory of slaves and other chattels taken from time to time belonging to the Pinney Estates in the parish of St. Thomas, Lowlands, in the Island of Nevis. He gives a list of those slaves born since the death of John Frederick Pinney, Esq., who died November 2nd, 1762, and who were living on the 23rd of June, 1793, consisting of about 40 boys and girls. At the same date (1783) occurs a list of negroes "and other slaves" (!) purchased by John Pinney, and now living, since his first arrival in Nevis, December the 23rd, 1764. Then follow the names of these new purchases in 1765-7, amongst which occur the names of "Weymouth," "Bridport," and—if anything further was necessary to show where their owner John Pinney came from—"Bettiscombe"!

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\* Many estates in the West Indies are to this day called after the names of their former owners.



This John Pinney could be, of course, no other than John Pretor,\* who assumed the name of Pinney, as stated by Hutchins, on succeeding to the estates of his cousin, John Frederick Pinney, M.P. for Bridport, in 1762. That he was living in 1795 is evident from the fact that the "Plantation Book" records a list of slaves who in that year were conveyed by him to his son, John Frederick Pinney, whilst there also occurs a list of those retained. This second John Frederick Pinney would seem, however, to have presently parted with the Nevis estates, for I find in the same book "a list of slaves on the estate of the late John Pinney, Esq., purchased by and now belonging to Edward Huggins, taken on the 1st of January, 1811," the period at which, no doubt, the estates also passed into the hands of Mr. Huggins, whose sole surviving grand-daughter, whom I have already mentioned, still occupies the old and roomy house at Montravers (where some of the old mahogany furniture may still be found†), picturesquely terraced by lichen-covered and moss-grown steps flanked by old iron railings, with the solidly-built stone

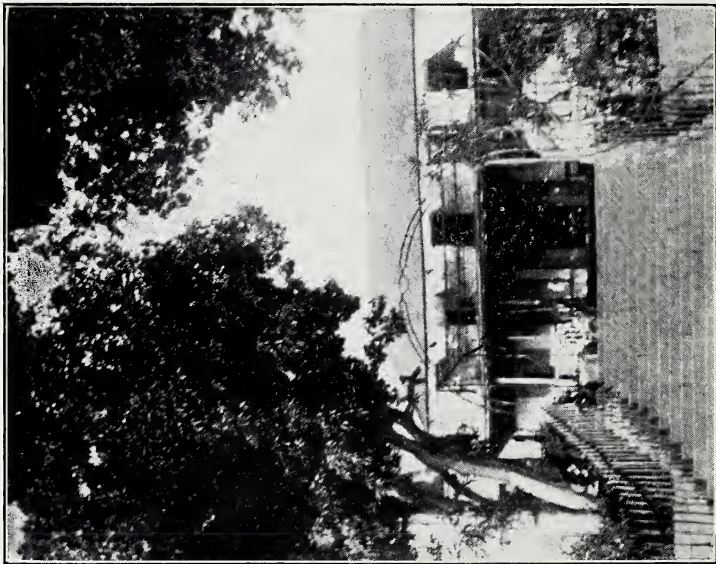
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\* This is corroborated by a copy of a letter (no date) which appears at the end of the above-mentioned "Plantation Book," evidently written from one member of the Pinney family to another, in which mention is made of "our uncle Pretor," and invoking the assistance of "Mr. Nelson" towards obtaining some appointment which the writer desired.

† Miss Huggins has kindly sent me a couple of old leaves from the "Plantation Book" upon which an inventory of the furniture, taken in the year 1794, has been made. It is surprising to see what a quantity of handsome furniture the well-to-do sugar planters of the West Indies must have had out there in those days, though there is very little of it to be found out there now. Miss Huggins tells me that it appears that it was intended to take the inventory in 1783, but it was not done; and she alludes to the fact that a picture of Azariah Pinney mentioned therein had been taken away by a Miss Weekes, and says—what I endorse—"a pity she did not leave it!" No doubt this lady was a relation of the family, as John Pinney (Pretor) had in 1742 married Jane, a daughter of W. B. Weekes, of Nevis. Probably this was done when the Pinneys left Nevis for good and settled in England. Is nothing known of this portrait amongst the Pinneys of Somerton Erleigh, in Somerset?







MONTRAVERS, NEVIS.



OLD SLAVE DUNGEON, MONTRAVERS.

“ slave-dungeon ” long disused, a little to one side below the house ; whilst the old-fashioned entrance-hall has many features of the “ Chippendale period ” in it, as shown by its old mahogany cupboards on the walls. From here, through the arch-way, may be seen the quaint old garden, now somewhat over-grown, perhaps, but restful and charming, in which many rare and beautiful tropical trees and shrubs are still growing in profusion, notably the “ King ” and “ Queen ” of flowers, the blossoms of the former being pink, and the latter a bluish-mauve colour, slightly darker, perhaps, than our Dorset “ corn-cockle.” The all-spice trees, too, with their dark green leaves, are beautiful to look upon, so tall and straight ; whilst the kind-hearted old lady does not forget to provide food in her garden for her—and my—dear friends, the monkeys (the pretty West African “ green monkeys,” *Cercopithecus callectrichus*, which must have come there with the slaves in the old days, who make many audacious trespasses from the neighbouring and wooded “ Peak ” mountain\* to feed upon the luscious plums which grow there—the “ Trinidad ” or “ Governor ” plum, and the “ Java ” plum, which latter, I am told, disappeared after the last hurricane—to say nothing of the oranges, which are here of a particularly sweet and delicious flavour. Near the centre of the garden stands an old drip-stone, an obelisk in shape, which formed—and in many places does so still—the sole West Indian filter.

Pleasanter quarters these than Dorchester gaol for an ex-convict of the Monmouth rebellion, well may we exclaim ! But was the Azariah Pinney mentioned by Hutchins and who

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\* The “ Peak ” is the highest mountain in Nevis—some 3,000ft. to 4,000ft. in height, and on the top extends a huge extinct crater which looks quite capable of repeating the disaster which its fellow, Mont Pelée, brought upon St. Pierre, in the adjacent island of Martinique, in May, 1902. The summit is nearly always capped with light, fleecy clouds, which no doubt was the reason for the name given to it by Columbus when he discovered these islands in 1493.

returned from Nevis evidently a prosperous man\*, and who, it is said, died in 1719 and was "buried in London," the same person as the "Azarias Pinney, of Axminster," sentenced to be executed at Bridport by Judge Jeffreys in September, 1685? Is it a fact that after that clear sentence and place of execution named, he was respited and shipped to Nevis? I should have thought that it would be very unusual for any person sent out under such circumstances not only to obtain his freedom so soon, but to amass money or estates. What authority had Miss Palgrave for the statement that Azariah Pinney ("from Bettiscomb") was transported to Nevis in 1688, as the above extract from her book would infer? Is this date not a mistake for 1685? At that time these doubts appeared so serious to me that I asked the question whether there must not have been *two* Azariah Pinneys, one "of Axminster," sentenced by Jeffreys *and executed at Bridport* in 1685—and the other, "from Bettiscomb," shipped to Nevis in 1688 (1685?) as stated by Miss Palgrave? But the coincidences were almost too startling to credit this. One thing, however, was certain—that Azariah Pinney of Nevis, who died in 1719 and whose tablet is in Bettiscombe church, could not have been the Azariah Pinney who, as Hutchins states, restored the old manor-house at Bettiscombe and died in 1760. Fortunately for me, a few months later (December, 1903) in the same periodical,

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\* That Azariah Pinney was well-established in business in Nevis may be gathered from the Court records in that island, amongst which may be found a certificate of purchase to Azariah Pinney and Richard Meriwether, of London, merchant planters, of land formerly of Robert Lorey, containing 20 acres, in satisfaction of a certain judgment dated 2nd May, 1710 (?). Two Powers of Attorney from merchants in London to Mr. Azariah Pinney of Nevis, merchant, dated 20th December, 1714, and 25th October, 1715 respectively, are also recorded.

I have recently (1909) been perusing some very fragile old papers, *temp*: Queen Anne and George I., sent me by Miss Huggins, in which Azariah Pinney is referred to—one dated 26th May, 1719 (the year of his death), conveying an estate in Gingerland, Nevis, to him to secure the advance of £1,000.

Mr. Vere Langford Oliver (recently elected a member of this club), who is well known in my part of the West Indies as the author of an important work—"The History of Antigua" in three volumes (1894-1899)—containing the genealogies of numerous families in the Leeward Islands, was able to give me some most interesting and valuable information, consisting of extracts from wills and other documents which he had obtained in his researches relating to the families of these Islands. To that same number of the "S. and D. Notes and Queries," curiously enough, Mr. Oliver had contributed certain particulars relating to the "Monmouth Rebels" and had referred to Hotten's "Original List of Emigrants" (1874), by which we learn that very few of these rebels seemed to have suffered the death penalty. They were mostly young and able-bodied men of the agricultural class, and the King's clemency was extended to them on condition that they were transported to the plantations to serve for ten years. The Island of Barbadoes, at that period the wealthiest and most important British West Indian Colony, seemed to have procured most of them. These white servants were not necessarily sold to the highest bidder, but were allotted to such estates as were deficient, and there were special Colonial Laws passed for their proper treatment. They had to serve in the Militia, and were generally occupied in various responsible posts connected with the cultivation of the sugar plantations. Such of them as were educated and had friends no doubt did not serve their full time, and as soon as they were free obtained grants of land and became merchants and planters.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the question to whom the skull at Bettiscombe belonged has now become merged in the more interesting inquiry what became of "Azarias Pinney, of Axminster," who took part in the Monmouth rebellion? From the information furnished by Mr. Oliver it is now made clear that there *were* two Azariah Pinneys; one, the Monmouth rebel, son of the non-conforming minister, the Rev. John Pinney, of Bettiscombe (who was succeeded in his living in the neighbouring parish of



Broadwinsor by the famous Thomas Fuller), born *circa* 1661—probably at Bettiscombe or Broadwinsor—and who was respited and shipped to Nevis, whence, returning to London, he died and was buried there in 1719 ; the other, his nephew, Azariah Pinney, of Bettiscombe (who I take to be the son of his sole surviving and elder brother Nathaniel, who married Naomi Gay, and who had, apparently, steered clear of the perils and attractions of the Monmouth rising), and died, or rather his will was proved, in 1760.

That the respite from execution which enabled this to be effected was not unlikely, notwithstanding the explicit orders given by Judge Jeffreys for his execution at Bridport, we know, when we consider how,—contrary to popular belief, perhaps,—comparatively very few of these convicts actually suffered the death penalty. The remarks of Mr. Oliver on this subject are very interesting ; and the West Indies,—and especially Barbados,—would seem to have benefitted largely by these respites.

Mr. Jerome Nipho, or Nepho, would appear to be one of the largest consignees of these unfortunates, and must have done very well for himself out of their disposal. This Nipho, as we learn from a note on page 393 of Mr. Allan Fea's "*King Monmouth*" (1902), was Secretary to Mary of Modena, Queen Consort of James II. ; and it was through him, as we now learn, that Azariah Pinney escaped with his life. Mr. Oliver, therefore, confirms Miss Palgrave's statement, so far at all events as that he was respited from execution and disposed of to Nipho. But, apparently, one George Penn, or Penne, seems to have secured the ransom for Azariah Pinney from Nipho for the sum of £65, and Mr. Oliver gives interesting particulars as to this taken from the *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1851. The entry showing this, taken from some old Pinney accounts, is very curious and will bear reproducing :—

Bristoll, Sep. 1685.

"Mr. John Pinney is debtor to money pd Geo. Penne,  
"Esq. for the ransome of my Bror Aza ; August 1685, £65."



So far as I know Azariah had no brother named John then living, though Mr. Oliver tells me that there was a John Pinney, possibly an elder half-brother, living at Bristol in 1685, and surely it was only in September that he was tried and convicted in Dorchester. As Mr. Oliver observes, this John Pinney can hardly be identical with the John Pinney, or Penny, in Dorchester gaol in Sept. 1685. This latter, — possibly a relation of Azariah and already alluded to by me (pp. 310-313),—was, we learn from Mr. Oliver (p. 344), also respited, put on board the “Happy Return” at Weymouth, and was sold on arrival at Barbados to Capt. George Perwight before the 8th of the following January. I wonder if there are any records of his future life or descendants in Barbados; but I imagine that he had not the same opportunities allowed him of doing so well for himself as Azariah had in Nevis.

This matter of the respite of Azariah Pinney is further alluded to in H. B. Irvings’ recent “Life of Judge Jeffreys” (1898), p. 307, where he mentions that “Mr. Prideaux was given to Jeffreys, as Azariah Primly (Pinney) was given to Mr. Nephro, and the Taunton maid to the Queen’s maids of honour, that is to say as a prisoner, whose friends could ransom him by paying the money to the person to whom he had been ‘given.’”

Azariah Pinney, of Nevis, we may take it then, was the founder of the family fortunes in the West Indies, and having attained to some influence in Nevis probably purchased the estates which afterwards bore his name,\* and which were sold by the representative of the family and then owner of those estates to the Huggins family about a century ago, as I have already mentioned.

Mr. Oliver’s extracts from the will made in 1718 by Azariah Pinney, of Nevis, described therein as a merchant, show that

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\* What is now known as “Pinney’s Estate,” was, I am informed, formerly known as “Sharlows” or “Charloe’s”—the name, probably, of a former possessor of the property.

he left a widow, Mary, and an only son, who was appointed sole executor. Substantial legacies were given to his grandson, George William Pinney, at 21, and to his grand-daughter Sophia at 18, and a smaller one to his nephew, Azariah Pinney, of Bettiscombe. These two grand-children were, of course, two of the three surviving children left by the testator's only son, John Pinney, whose monumental slab exists in Fig Tree Church, Nevis, already mentioned by me (in my former paper), and who is there described (in Latin) as having been born on May 3rd, 1686, and as having died on December 11th, 1720. The date of John's birth as here recorded gives rise to rather interesting considerations. Did Mary, the wife of Azariah Pinney, accompany her husband to Nevis on his restoration to comparative freedom? Who was she?

According to the monumental inscription in Fig Tree Church there appears to have been another son of this John surviving him; and from the will of John Pinney's widow Mary (*née* Helme), we learn that this son was John Frederick Pinney, then described as her only son, to whom she left everything; her other children (the two legatees under their grandfather Azariah's will) being evidently then dead. This will was proved in London by John Frederick Pinney, only son and executor, in 1735. John Pinney, the father, seems to have died before proving his father Azariah's will, or having made one himself, and eventually administration to both estates was taken out by John Frederick Pinney, the grandson, in 1742.

This John Frederick Pinney was then the sole lineal descendant of Azariah Pinney, of Bettiscombe, nephew of the Azariah Pinney, of Nevis, and heir to all the West Indian properties. But he was also to become the heir to the English family property as well under the will (made in 1758) of his cousin Azariah Pinney, of Bettiscombe, nephew of Azariah Pinney, of Nevis, who, although he does not seem to have possessed any West Indian estates himself, was evidently a man of means, and rebuilt the old house at Bettiscombe. He appears to have been married, for he

expresses a desire in his will to be buried with his late wife in Wayford ; but he does not appear to have left any issue. He left all his estates in strict entail to the above-mentioned John Frederick Pinney, his cousin ; with remainder to John Pinney, of Herwood, Thorncombe ; remainder to John Pretor, son of Michael Pretor, deceased, on his taking the name and arms of Pinney. The will was proved by John Frederick Pinney in June, 1760, then M.P. for Bridport. And so it was, as Mr. Oliver observes, that the younger branch of the family settled in Nevis, and eventually inherited the Bettiscombe property on the extinction of the heirs in the elder line.

But this branch now, too, fails in direct issue, for according to Hutchins, John Frederick Pinney died without issue in 1762 and his estates descended to his second-cousin, the above-mentioned Pretor, afterwards high sheriff of Dorset (1764), who took the name and arms of Pinney. This statement as to the failure of issue is borne out by the extract furnished by Mr. Oliver from the will of John Frederick Pinney (made in 1761), who is described as of Bettiscombe, and was apparently unmarried. He left all his estates in Nevis and in England to John Pretor, following the devise in his cousin Azariah's will, with additional remainders over. This will is proved in 1762 by John Pretor (Pinney). So that this John Pretor may be said to have succeeded to the family property under both wills. And here the Nevis blood also, notwithstanding the seven children of John Pinney (who died aged only 34), expired with his last surviving son, John Frederick Pinney, for I take it that the Pretors (a Dorset name) were not connected through any Nevis member of the family.

And so the history of the family as unfolded by the " Plantation Books " on the estate in Nevis appears drawing to a close as the period connected with the history of the Bettiscombe skull begins to dawn.

John Pinney (Pretor) who pays a visit to Nevis in 1764 settles in 1765 certain of his estates and a portion of his slaves on his son John Frederick (the second), and the two of them

disposed of the estates in Nevis bearing their name, as I have already stated, to Edward Huggins in 1811.

Apparently it was not long after the disposal of these estates to the Huggins family that the last of the Pinneys removed from Nevis, for I find, in looking over an old abstract of title which comprises these later dealings, traces of a desire to dispose of their remaining property and business in the Island and to retire to the old country. This they eventually did. John Pinney, who had married Jane Weekes, of Nevis, died on January 23rd, 1818, and from the recital of a marriage settlement executed in 1801, we learn that the name of John Frederick's wife was Frances. Under the will of John Pinney, John Frederick Pinney, Charles Pinney, and the widow Jane were appointed executors, and John Frederick Pinney also residuary legatee. This Charles would appear to be a younger son of John Pinney (Pretor), and to be engaged in business with his elder brother, John Frederick. It is believed that having left the West Indies they retired to Bristol, and set up as merchants there. Miss Huggins indeed tells me that both John Frederick and Charles did so—first one and then the other—both in her father's life-time. At all events the last document I can find in Nevis with which they are connected was in 1830, and which, apparently, disposed of the remaining Pinney lands to the Huggins family. In this document John Frederick is described as the eldest son and heir of John Pinney, deceased.

But it may interest my readers to learn that this Charles Pinney, who about this time was Mayor of Bristol, was the hero of a very interesting law case—*Rex v. Charles Pinney, Esquire*—an account of which is to be found in the third volume of "*Barnewall and Adolphus's Reports*" (1832), p. 947, and which I came across quite accidentally. In this case, Charles Pinney was charged, on an information filed by H.M.'s Attorney General, with neglect of duty in not having, as Mayor of Bristol, taken proper steps to suppress a riot in that city in October, 1831, during which the mob attacked and burnt the Bridewell, partly destroyed the Bishop's Palace,

demolished the Customs House, and burnt several other institutions and houses. The case was tried at bar in the King's Bench at Westminster by a special jury of the county of Berks. The trial began on October 25th, 1832, and lasted seven days, and ended, after an elaborate summing-up by Littledale, J., in the acquittal of the defendant. Eminent counsel were engaged on both sides. The case was further interesting from the fact that after a day or two Lord Tenterden, C.J., was obliged to discontinue his attendance through illness, under which he had for some time been labouring, and which in a few days terminated fatally.

This brings me down to modern history, and to a time not long after, I should say, the skull must have taken up its abode at Bettiscombe, so that I will not attempt to trespass further upon private family history. But I should be glad if any later member of the Pinney family could say when the occupation of the old home at Bettiscombe was given up (I have said that for many years it had been let as a farmhouse),\* or when the skull is first known to have made its appearance there.

It will have been noticed that *two* members of the family were concerned in the Monmouth Rebellion, Azariah and John. This circumstance, and the transportation to the West Indies, are confirmed by a letter that I recently received from the before-mentioned old Dorset lady to whom I had written, telling her of the result of my visit to Nevis. She writes to me :—"It confirms a lot of the old legend, and

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\* Colonel Reginald Pinney, a direct descendant of John (Pretor) Pinney, and now residing at Broadwindsor, Dorset, has recently informed me that the Pinneys lost Bettiscombe by not renewing the lease with the Brownes of Frampton, Dorset. John Frederick Pinney had quarrelled with the owner of Frampton at that time, and neither would nominate a life (the tenure being lifehold), so, on the death of John Frederick Pinney, the manor reverted to the survivor Browne. In the meantime, Azariah and his cousin, John Frederick Pinney, had built Racedown Lodge, in the parish of Thorncombe (the future home of Wordsworth, the poet), so their successor John (Pretor) Pinney removed to this place.



that the son who did return brought his own black servant and the skull of the servant of his dead brother. It used to be said that these brothers were sent to Jamaica for *work* instead of being butchered after the Monmouth Rebellion." But this is a variant of the legend of which I was not previously aware. Nevertheless, how the terrible results of the great tragedy seemed to linger in the memory of the people of the West !

Before I finish I should like to be allowed to give one more small yet pathetic incident which may fittingly close all reference to Azariah Pinney—"the Monmouth Rebel." Considerable alterations had been made, as was only to be expected, in the old house at Montravers since Azariah's time, in particular, the addition by Mr. Huggins of a spacious stone wing, which bears the marks of an incomplete finish, the result, probably, of that depression in the sugar-cane industry which has caused so many of the old estates (Pinney's amongst the number) to pass into the hands of English West Indian merchants and "advancers." On one occasion the old dining-room—the building being mostly of wood—was being pulled down, and Miss Huggins told me that she remembered as a child this being done, and that as the workmen were ripping a board from the ceiled partition under one of the windows out fell a soldier's coat, with all the buttons scattered on the floor ! Wonder and amazement were expressed by all that the coat had been built up in that way, but the matter has always remained a mystery. An inquiry from me could elicit nothing more than that "it was certainly a soldier's red coat," and that Miss Huggins believed that the buttons were of silver or brass, but much blackened or tarnished ; nothing of either had been retained. The question naturally arises, whose coat could this have been ? The answer as naturally suggests that it was Azariah Pinney's uniform which he wore at Sedgmoor—it is very unlikely that he was actually captured in the fight—and which was either taken out with him to Nevis—then to some extent a free man—or, more probably perhaps, had been sent out to him there when times had become less troublous. Otherwise,



what was the occasion for hiding it? This would hardly have been the case had it formed the uniform of a local Defence Force, raised to meet the Frenchman when he came prowling round those coasts, what time Nelson came courting his widow-bride in Nevis in H.M.S. *Boreas*.\* It is a pity that not even one of the buttons has been preserved so as to show whether there remained upon it aught of the Duke's cypher, or other badge by which its identity could have been established. Yet it is not a very wide conjecture to imagine that this faded old coat with tarnished buttons was all that was left as a memorial of the youthful ardour and zealous faith of this follower of the "Protestant Duke," put away when Azariah Pinney came home to die, and forgotten during that century and a half until it came upon the astonished gaze of those from whom all knowledge of the history of the exile had long since passed away.

So far, then, no additional light has been thrown on the history of the skull, or as to which member of the Pinney family brought the skull to Bettiscombe. Was it John Pinney (Pretor) and what time he, in conjunction with his son, John Frederick (the second), disposed of the estates a century ago, and returned, we may presume, to end his days in England? If so, may not one's imagination easily lead one to believe that it was the skull of old "Bettiscombe," the slave purchased by him in 1765 (who at that time, after many years of faithful service, was undoubtedly dead, for his name no longer appeared in the last list of slaves entered in the "Plantation Book"), taken by his old master with him to the very place, indeed, from which his trusty servant had taken his name, as "a memento of his humble follower!" If this be so, one can understand the history of the legend better, and the motive that prompted the home-bringing of

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\* Mr. Oliver refers in an extract from the "Minutes of Council of Nevis for 1693," to "Lieut." Azariah Pinney being chosen one of the two Commissioners to assess Charles Town.

the now famous skull. The rest is easy for the simple country folk to weave, and is, at the best, a form of superstition, as I have said, by no means confined to West Dorset.

In conclusion, let me say that though I may be wrong in many of my surmises and deductions I do not think that it is often given to one, in trying to penetrate the uncertainty and myth that surround the investigation of so many of our local superstitions and pieces of folk-lore, to come across, as I have, so many minor items of interest connected with an event that appeals so strongly to West of England folk as the Monmouth Rebellion. Whether I have been as successful in tracing the history of the Bettiscombe skull as I have been lengthy in suggesting its connection with that period of English history, I must leave my readers to judge, but I am very much afraid that their patience, as well as my subject, has at length been exhausted.

P.S.—I append a rough pedigree of the Pinney family connected with Nevis, constructed from such materials as I had before me, which may be of some service to my readers.

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#### ADDENDUM.

Since writing the above, I have been referred to George Roberts's "Life of the Duke of Monmouth" (1844), from the second volume of which I have made the following extracts relative to the subject matter of my paper

Mr. Roberts says (p. 237) :—

"The desire to procure white labour for the plantations in the West India Islands, instead of the negro slaves, was very great in this country. The sugar trade flourished at the close of this reign in a *remarkable* degree. Extreme cupidity was displayed in order to get hold of parties to send out. . . . At a time when courtiers, favourites, and soldiers were rewarded by having condemned prisoners given to them as a present, the value of a man for working in the plantations was soon ascertained, and great was the scramble for the booty. This was the case with respect to the Monmouth

men who it was intended should be executed. Let it not be supposed that transportation to the West India Islands for ten years was a punishment of absence alone from their homes—a very severe punishment of itself. Those who had purchased or laid out money to procure convicts did so for the sake and with the expectation of profit; they became the absolute masters of the recent slaves, and could only be repaid by the sale of individuals or from the result of their labour. . . . .”

“These persons became either in reality slaves or banished persons, according to their circumstances. Of so great a number my researches have only slightly developed the history of four individuals.”

One of these fortunately happened to be Azariah Pinney, of whom Mr. Roberts gives (p. 243) the following account, the materials for which, he states in a foot-note, were derived from letters supplied to him by a member of the family then living at Somerton House, Somerset :—

“Mr. Azariah Pinney having been sentenced to death for high treason, was pardoned and given to Jerome Nipho, Esq. Rich and poor were alike given to some individual for his benefit, as shown in the preceding list of prisoners to be transported, and were conveyed to Bristol. Mr. A. Pinney’s destination was the Island of Nevis. His father clearly refers to this as a matter of choice, and would, had he been consulted, have advised about it. He parted with a wife and child, and proceeded at the age of 24 years to his place of banishment. Mr. A. Pinney soon ceased to be a slave. . . . . Mr. Azariah Pinney sailed in the “Rose Pink”—Captain Wogan—and soon experienced the evils of shipwreck and fever. In one of his father’s account books £117 3s. is entered for expenses to send him away to Nevis. The banished gentleman had to pay ten days’ expenses at Bristol. He visited London and York before sailing. Mr. Azariah Pinney kept a diary, now lost, for his son’s information and improvement. He became a flourishing man, and his son was eventually Chief Justice of Nevis. Still his letters have complaints of storms, hurricanes, earthquakes, and a ruinous invasion of the French.”

From the kindness of Colonel Reginald Pinney I am able to give an extract from the will of the Rev. John Pinney, of Bettiscombe, dated April 10th, 1702, which refers to the Monmouth Rebel and his son John :—

“I give to my son Azariah fifty pounds sterl., one feather bed one bedstead and furniture for it, if he shall live to return unto England. I also do acquit

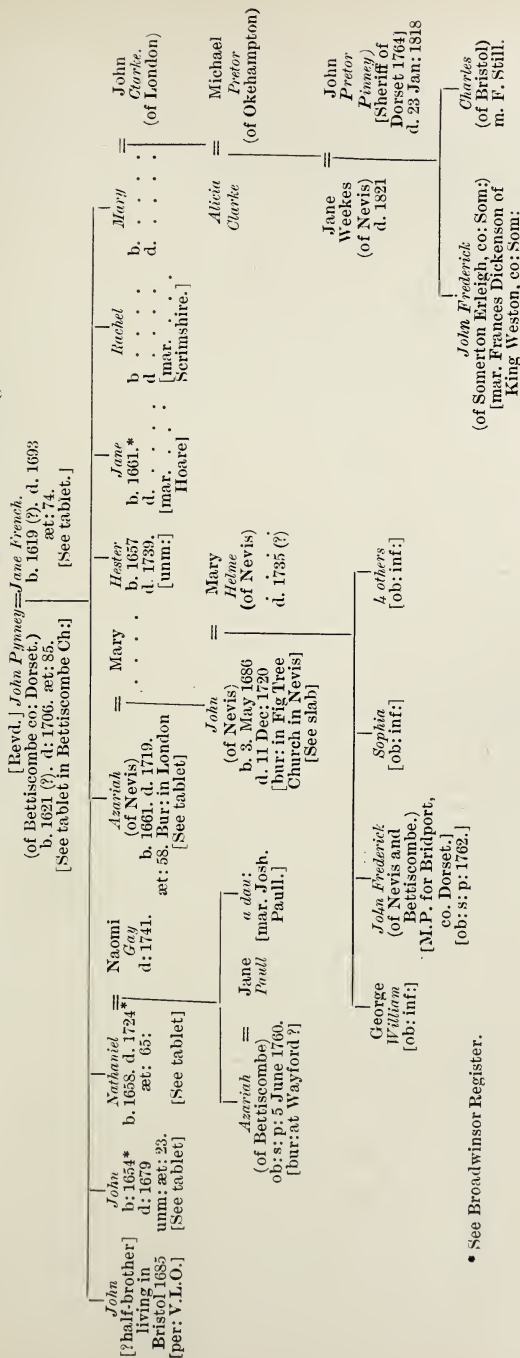
him of all debts owing to me, and to his son John. I do give all my books and manuscripts p'vided he be consecrated and employed in the ministry."

From what I have said we know that Azariah's son preferred the law as a profession and eventually became Chief Justice of Nevis, and here he died and was buried in 1720.



# PEDIGREE OF PINNEY FAMILY OF NEVIS (BRITISH WEST INDIES).

Arms : [ ] three crescents or from each a cross-crosslet fitchée arg;



• See Broadwinsor Register.



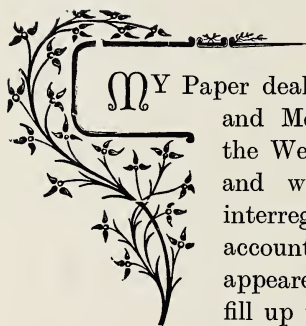
## Weymouth and Melcombe Regis in the Time of the Great Civil War.

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By W. BOWLES BARRETT.

(Read March 5th, 1910.)

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MY Paper deals with the part which Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, the twin-towns by the Wey, played in the Great Civil War, and with some local incidents of the interregnum. No connected and detailed account of these stirring events has ever appeared. I shall, therefore, endeavour to fill up this gap in the town records. It is true that we have been promised for some time past a work on the Civil War in Dorset, but it has not yet been published.\*

The feelings of bitter antagonism which sprang up between Charles I., on the one hand, and the House of Commons

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\* Since this Paper was read, "The Great Civil War in Dorset, 1642—1660" by A. R. Bayley, B.A., Oxon., F.R.H.S., has appeared—a truly admirable work (Barnicott and Pearce, The Wessex Press, Taunton).



and a large part of the nation behind it, on the other hand, and which, ultimately, led to the Great Civil War and the Puritan Revolution, are so well known, that I need not touch upon that part of the subject.

The war broke out in August, 1642, and continued until the battle of Worcester, in 1651, that is to say, for a period of nine years. The towns of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, and the Island and Castle of Portland, were of great importance, owing to their geographical position, especially their nearness to the French coast.\*

### THE FORTS.

A fine Fourteenth century church, was, at the commencement of the war, standing on the Chapelhay, Weymouth, and was reached by 70 steps from the street below. By its commanding position, on the top of a precipitous cliff, it was admirably adapted for a stronghold, and was speedily converted by the Parliamentary troops into a fort called "the Chapel Fort." As this fort commanded Melcombe (which lay on low ground to the front), as also a part of the harbour, it was, throughout the war, the key to the local situation. Another fort was erected at the Nothe to command the harbour and the bay. Platforms for artillery were set up at both these forts. Earthworks were thrown up, some at the then northern entrance to Melcombe Regis, and others just a little north of the junction of St. Thomas Street with Lower Bond Street, extending thence westwards probably to the Backwater. Several drawbridges were built and town gates erected, the positions of which are long since forgotten.

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\* Weymouth proper lies on the south side, and Melcombe Regis (the more modern part of the Borough) on the North side of the harbour.

## WEYMOUTH AND MELCOMBE FOR THE PARLIAMENT.

We naturally enquire whether the Weymouth and Melcombe people were mainly on the side of the Royalists or on that of the Parliament. Like the neighbouring towns of Poole, Dorchester, and Lyme Regis, they were for the most part decidedly in favour of the Parliament. In fact, the townsfolk throughout the South and East of England were to a great extent disaffected. As regards Weymouth and Melcombe, it is suggestive that, almost immediately on the outbreak of the war, and apparently without fighting, the towns fell into the hands of the Parliamentary forces, commanded by Sir Walter Erle and Sir Thomas Trenchard, who garrisoned and fortified them.\* The Parliament also took possession, about the same time, of the coast towns of Lyme Regis and Poole, also of Portland and Dorchester. This was in August and September, 1642. Colonel William Sydenham, son-in-law of John Trenchard, of Warmwell, was appointed Governor of the towns of Weymouth and Melcombe. He was a leading figure in the subsequent contests.†

Both Weymouth and Melcombe were (as I am about to relate), subsequently taken and retaken several times by the opposing forces, the fate of the towns generally depending on that of Portland, the "Gibraltar of Wessex."

## BOTH TOWNS SEIZED BY THE ROYALISTS, AUGUST, 1643.

Weymouth and Melcombe having remained in the hands of the Parliament for about a year, the Earl of Carnarvon (who had taken Bristol on behalf of the King, and was making

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\* 2 Hut. Hist. Dors., Ed. 3, 423.

† The Governor's residence was on or near the site of Steward's Court, in Melcombe Regis. The lane in which the Court is situate is still known as "Governor's Lane."

a successful progress through Dorset with nearly 2,000 Horse and Dragoons), obtained the surrender of Dorchester, Weymouth, Melcombe, and Portland, and handed them over to Prince Maurice, the King's Nephew, who had arrived with the Foot and cannon. This occurred early in August, 1643. The sight of these Ironsides in their heavy breastplates and steel morions, armed with musketoons, pistols and swords, must have been a striking one for the townsfolk, who, as yet, had seen but little of war. We may suppose that Carnarvon's cavalry paraded in front of the bay, and that part of his horses were stabled in the late Priory in Maiden Street, then in ruins.

The conditions on which the towns had capitulated, with their arms, ordnance and ammunition, were that the inhabitants should not be plundered, nor suffer for any ill they had done ; but, unfortunately for the townsmen, Prince Maurice's troops got quite out of hand and committed great ravages. They plundered the houses of the townsmen and, laden with booty, shouted and howled with joy. In fact, the articles agreed on at the surrender of the towns were so ill observed, that Carnarvon, who was a man of high honour, resented this conduct so much that he indignantly threw up his command and returned to the King at the siege of Gloucester. Matters were not improved for the townsmen by the landing at Weymouth in the following November of a body of 300 Irish soldiers under Lord Inchiquin, in support of the Royal forces.\*

As to Portland, it was a Royal manor, and one of the King's strongholds. It was of great importance as a base, not only on account of its inherent strength, but also of its proximity to Weymouth bay and harbour. The treasure and rich furniture which the rebels had but lately taken from Wardour Castle and elsewhere, had been lodged by them in Portland Castle, a prize which now fell to the Royalists.

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\* Whitelock, p. 76.

On 20th February, 1643-4, a local misfortune befel some of the King's cavalry which Prince Rupert had sent as a convoy with £3,000 *en route* for Weymouth. Some of the Parliament garrison of Poole and Wareham fell upon them near Dorchester (probably at Yellowham Wood), seized the money, with 100 horse, arms and ammunition, and carried all to Poole.\*

RETAKEN BY THE EARL OF ESSEX FOR THE PARLIAMENT,  
JUNE, 1644.

But the towns were shortly to be re-captured by the Parliament. The Earl of Essex, an honourable, steady man, but with little genius, had been appointed Commander-in-Chief by the Parliament. He had arrived at Blandford in June, 1644, with an army of 13,000, Horse and Foot, and, in that month, took Dorchester. It was felt that Weymouth and Melcombe were of much importance for the trade of the county. The towns, however, were of no great strength; Colonel William Ashburnham, the Royalist Governor there, and Captain-General of the county, had been negligent in completing the fortifications. Besides this, a change of government was facilitated by the fact that some of the townsmen (probably incensed by the exactions of the Cavaliers) had mutinied. Lyme was gallantly resisting a siege by the Royalists, commenced some two months previously under Prince Maurice, and Essex, proceeding on his march to relieve that town, sent to Weymouth, in advance, a party of Horse, under Sir Wm. Balfour. Four of the Weymouth burgesses went to Essex, who was then at Dorchester, to treat as to the surrender of the two towns. Favourable terms having been ultimately arranged, the Royalists, to the number of about 400, marched out of Weymouth on

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\* Coins were struck at Weymouth whilst garrisoned by Charles, half-crowns and, probably, shillings and sixpences were issued, the mint marks comprising part of the arms of the place.

the following day (17th June), and proclamation was made that, upon pain of death, everyone should bring in all arms and ammunition to the Court of Guard and Town Hall before sunset. Essex followed Balfour to Weymouth and remained there some days. Having possessed himself of the town, he rode to Sandsfoot Castle, which, being summoned, surrendered after three hours' parley. The Earl of Warwick, the Parliamentary Lord High Admiral, had been engaged in relieving Lyme, and now appeared in Weymouth Roads with a fleet of nine ships to assist the operations of Essex in Melcombe. At this juncture Ashburnham retired with the remainder of his forces to Portland Castle, still held by the Royalists. Once more, then, the Parliament flag was floating over the forts of the two towns, and, without any fighting, a rich prize fell to the Parliament, including, it is said, 60 ships in the Harbour. Ashburnham's conduct in retiring from Weymouth on the mere approach of Essex's army was the subject of an enquiry by the King and Council, by whom he had the good fortune to be absolved from the charge of cowardice or neglect.

The memorable siege of Lyme Regis by the Royalists having been raised at about the same date as the surrender of Weymouth, Prince Maurice retired from Lyme to Exeter, and the surrendered Royalist garrison of Weymouth received orders to join him there. Favourable terms were granted them, as mentioned above, and the officers were allowed to march on horse-back, retaining their swords and pistols, the common soldiers to carry staves only.

Colonel William Sydenham was now re-appointed Governor of Weymouth for the Parliament, and the fortifications of the towns were vigorously proceeded with.

#### CHARLES I. AT MAIDEN NEWTON.

In September and October of this year, the King was making a progress with his army from Chard through Dorset,



in the course of which he came near Weymouth ; in fact, on the 1st October he quartered at Maiden Newton, staying at the Rectory House, and had "dinner in the field."\*

### A ROYALIST CONSPIRACY, 1644.

Another change was about to take place, and the shadows of war were again shortly to hang over the towns. Sir Lewis Dyve,† who had been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Dorsetshire Royalist forces, had received orders from the King, then at Sherborne, for the re-capture of Weymouth and Melcombe. The Roundheads did not expect this. Peter Ince (appointed by the Dorset Standing Committee to be officiating Minister of the Weymouth Garrison), wrote— "In the beginning of February" (1644) "we were in as sweet a quiet and security as any Garrison in the Kingdom : no enemy near us but one at Portland, and that not very considerable, being but about three or four hundred men." But a conspiracy by some of the townsmen (in conjunction with some in Portland) to betray the towns to the Royalists had by this time been formed, and materially helped Sir Lewis Dyve in his project. This conspiracy and its results formed some of the most interesting and important incidents of the war here.

I am unaware of any Royalist records containing other than very brief accounts of the siege of Melcombe, and of the events which immediately led up to it. I am therefore mainly indebted for information to Parliamentary sources ;

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\* Life of Bertie, Lord Lindsey.

† Sir Lewis Dyve, of Bromham, Bedford, was connected with some of the principal Royalist families in Dorset. He was taken in August, 1645, with immense booty, at the capture of Sherborne Castle. Being brought to the bar of the House and refusing to kneel, he was compelled by force. He was M.P. for Weymouth 3 Chas I..



many of these being official, I see no reason to doubt their general accuracy. Of the sources referred to, I would particularly specify two rare Commonwealth pamphlets of which I possess copies, one being a relation of the siege, &c.,\* by Peter Ince (before referred to), and the other a report of certain examinations taken before a Council of War at Weymouth, in March, 1645.†

It appears that, as early as Christmas, 1644, Fabian Hodder, a merchant and staunch Melcombe Royalist, was in secret communication with Sir Lewis Dyve, then stationed at Sherborne, and afterwards with Sir William Hastings, the Royalist Governor of Portland Castle. This was a risky business, and so the correspondence was carried on by Weymouth women, they being less likely to be suspected.‡ John Cade, an Alderman of Melcombe, who had served as a Captain in the Royalist forces, and John Mills, one of the Town Constables, were two other chief plotters. In consequence of Hodder's appeals, Sir Lewis Dyve promised that he would come with 1,500 Horse and Foot, about midnight on Sunday, the 9th February, 1644-5, to surprise Melcombe, and that he would give the plotters (according to the confession of one of them at the Council of War

\* "A Brief Relation of the Surprise of the Forts of Weymouth, the Siege of Melcombe, the Recovery of the Forts and Raising of the Siege." By P. I., Minister to the Garrison, 1644 [March 20]. King's Pamphlets, Vol. 198, No. 7.

† "The last Speeches and Confession of Captain John Cade and John Mills, Constable; who were hanged at Weymouth for endeavouring to betray that Garrison to the enemy with all the severall examinations of the Plotters and the sentences denounced against them and others of the said Conspiracie. By W. Sydenham, Col.; Governor of Weymouth and Captain William Batten, Vice-Admirall of the Navie and the rest of the Counsell of War at Weymouth 1645" [March 27]. King's Pamphlets, Vol. 198, No. 28.

‡ The bearers of Royalist messages from persons of high rank and importance were sometimes given "tongue tokens," as a proof of the genuineness of the bearers, when no written word could be risked. These tokens were tiny ovals of gold, small enough to be put under the tongue in case of need, with the head of Charles on one side and his initials on the other.

subsequently held), £500. The scheme of this cleverly-hatched conspiracy was that Melcombe should be attacked by Sir Lewis Dyve on that night, and that, simultaneously, part of the King's forces in Portland, reinforced by the Islanders there, should come out and seize the Chapel and Nothe forts on Weymouth side. Besides these, there were conspirators in some of the adjoining villages, especially Preston and Sutton Poyntz, whence about 60 men were to be let into the town to join in the attack on Melcombe. The conspirators were to take the following oath, framed by Fabian Hodder :—" You shall swear by the Holy Trinity that you will conceal the intended plot." The pass-word was "Crabchurch," and round the arm a white handkerchief was to be worn. The town gates of Melcombe were to be opened to let in Sir Lewis, the Main Guard was to be seized, the Major of the Parliamentary regiment was to be slain, and the doors of the marshalsea, or prison, in which the prisoners of war taken by the Roundheads were confined, were to be broken open, so that they, being released, might join the attacking forces. Some of the gunners in the Chapel and Nothe Forts were parties to the conspiracy. The time, too, was opportune, for there was no Parliament ship in the Roads.

#### THE NIGHT SURPRISE OF THE CHAPEL AND NOTHE FORTS BY THE ROYALISTS, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1645.

When the eventful Sunday came round, an order was given during Divine Service, in the picturesque old church at Churchope, that part of the Portland garrison and the Islanders should appear, with their arms, at the Castle at Castletown, by five o'clock in the evening of that day. The men having assembled, two companies were formed, under the command of Sir William Hastings—one to go by land and the other by water to Weymouth proper. One company accordingly proceeded along the road by the Chesil Beach to

Smallmouth. There was no bridge in those days at this narrow inlet of the sea ; it was crossed by means of a passage-boat kept by a ferryman on the Wyke side, and was known as "The Passage." A Weymouth plotter, John Dry, a tanner by trade, had arranged with the ferryman to have his boat in readiness to bring over the Royalists. Let us picture the scene : it is now dark, silently they effect the crossing, and are met on the Wyke side by the tanner, who conducts them to the Chapel Fort. We may assume that the route chosen, in order to secure secrecy and to attack the Chapel Fort from the rear, is by Buxton and St. Leonard's Roads, then unfrequented lanes. Meanwhile the other company goes by water to the ancient pier (long since demolished), under the Nothe, whence, led by Walter Bond, a Hope fisherman, they creep along to the Nothe Fort. The total number of the attacking party from Portland is small and does not exceed 120. As to Melcombe, all is excitement among the plotters there, in the expectation that Sir Lewis Dyve is about to arrive and co-operate in the capture of the towns. A strange gathering of country-folk (either conspirators or, at least, Royalist sympathisers), meet on Radipole Common to watch for the arrival of Dyve's forces and to see the Nothe fight. Some, we are told, are armed with pistols, one with a Welsh hook, and others with cudgels.

The secret is remarkably well kept ; a complete surprise of the Chapel Fort is effected about midnight, the Royalists suddenly falling upon the sentinels, while most of the Roundhead soldiers are asleep. The Roundheads sound a belated alarm with their drums, but the Royalists, with loud shouts, we may suppose, of "For God and King Charles," occupy the fort, practically, without resistance. The Roundheads, however, "finding," Ince says, "such dangerous guests possesst of those places which above a half yeer's pain and sweat had indeavoured to make our security," pull themselves together and within an hour of the surprise, make a sudden assault, but are repulsed with loss. Amongst the mortally wounded in this assault is Major Francis

Sydenham, the Governor's brother, an officer greatly esteemed, who died the next day.\* The attack on the Nothe Fort is also successful, and once more the Royalist Standard is raised.† The Parliament men, although exposed to the fire of their enemy, and notwithstanding the loss of the forts, manage to remain in Weymouth proper until the evening of the following day.‡

Richard Wiseman, who has been justly called "the Father of English Surgery," was in the Chapel Fort amongst the Royalists, at the time of the surprise, and attended some of the wounded. His "Seven Chirurgical Treatises" show the great advance he made in sound surgical practice. He was appointed surgeon to Charles II. and died 1676.§

#### ARRIVAL OF SIR LEWIS DYVE, FEBRUARY 10TH, 1645.

Sir Lewis Dyve had caused serious disappointment to the King's allies, by not arriving so soon as he had promised. Instead of coming on the Sunday, he kept the Royalists in suspense until noon of the following day (Monday). He then arrived with Horse and Foot, and, aiding Hastings, took

\* Major Francis Sydenham took a prominent part in the Civil War in Dorset.

† "God appearing for the Parliament in sundry late victories, &c. March 10, 1644." King's Pamphlets, Vol. I., 95, No. 22.

‡ Colonel Ralph Weldon, son of Sir Anthony Weldon, Baronet, of Swanscombe, Kent, was in command of one of the Parliamentary regiments in Weymouth when the Chapel Fort was surprised by the Royalists. Not long after the raising of the siege of Melcombe, he, as Senior Colonel, commanded a brigade sent to relieve Taunton, then besieged by the Cavaliers. Weldon entered the town and raised the siege. He was a collateral ancestor of the Rev. Canon Weldon, D.D., the esteemed Vicar of Holy Trinity, Weymouth. It is remarkable that the Canon should now have, as part of his parochial organisation, the noble schools built on the actual site of the fort which his ancestor had defended!

§ Sir Thomas Longman's "Richard Wiseman," 1891.

possession of the remaining portion of Weymouth proper. The Roundheads, in the evening of that day, withdrew to Melcombe, raising the drawbridge which divided the two towns. It is strange that their retreat was unopposed: Ince says "Our enemies tamely yeilded it" (i.e., Melcombe), "as untenable. We had scarce bestowed a Fortnight's work on it since we possesst this garrison."

#### ROYALIST SOLDIERS AT RADIPOLE.

We get a glimpse of some of the Royalist soldiers on the Wednesday following the surprise of the forts. They refreshed themselves by marching to that part of the village of Radipole called Causeway, where, together with "Master Wood, Clerke, Curate of Sutton Poyntz," they regaled themselves at an ale-house and we are told, I regret to say, that some of them became "distempered with beare." About 80 years ago, a tradition existed in Radipole of the passage through the village of soldiers in the Civil War. For aught I know, the tradition may still survive.

#### SIEGE OF MELCOMBE BY THE ROYALISTS, FEBRUARY, 1645.

The Royalists now poured on Melcombe from the Chapel Fort "a multitude of great Bullets and Iron Bars, hot and cold," battering down some of the houses. "Some of their gunners ingaged themselves to levell us with the ground."\* The long siege of that town had begun. It was resolutely held by the Roundheads. Owing to its geographical position, they were at a serious disadvantage, whereas the Cavaliers, with ample ammunition, were encamped in what was, practically, a citadel on the top of a precipitous hill, and also held

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\* Ince.



the Nothe Fort, commanding the harbour, and a small fort at Bingleaves. The Royalist forces, when at full strength, numbered 4,000 or 5,000—the Parliamentary, 900 only, and these were looked upon by the Royalists as being almost prisoners at mercy. But those sturdy Roundheads at once surrounded Melcombe with earthworks, and defended it with splendid tenacity, avenging the losses they had sustained on Dyve's arrival.

All that week cannonading and burning of houses went on, but with little effect. The Roundheads, therefore, proposed that there should be no more such useless burnings; the Cavaliers replied, "We scorn to parley with you, and will do what we please." Sydenham then set on fire seven or eight houses in Weymouth proper and fired some Royalists' ships on that side. Meanwhile, two Parliament ships, aided by a favourable wind, and other welcome reinforcements to the Parliament forces, arrived, including 100 Horse. Captain William Batten, Vice-Admiral of the Navy, anchoring in the roadstead with the "James," landed some 200 seamen who "have proved themselves very brave men in all this service"; the ships also relieved the forces in Melcombe of 200 Royalist prisoners. A further detachment of 100 Cavalry, under Lieut.-Colonel James Haynes, came by land.

On the following Sunday (the 16th), Sydenham routed a troop of Royalist Horse near Radipole, slaying some and capturing about 80 Horse and 45 prisoners. The Roundheads "chased the little remnant that remained up to the gates of Weymouth."

Sir Lewis Dyve's, Sir Thomas Austin's, and Cleveland's Horse, with some Foot, blocked the Parliament forces at the north end of Melcombe. Notwithstanding this, the latter sallied forth from time to time, and on one occasion succeeded in bringing in 900 sheep, and a Royalist Captain who had mistaken the Roundheads for some of his own party.

George, Lord Goring, the King's Lieutenant-General in Hampshire and some other counties, leaving Salisbury, had



arrived in Mid-Dorset at the head of an army of upwards of 3,000 Horse, 1,500 Foot, and a train of artillery, besides such reinforcements as he found in these parts. On Sunday, February 23rd, there rang through besieged Melcombe the cry, "The Cavalry," "The Cavalry," for, in truth, Goring, leaving his main forces at Dorchester, had sent a detachment of Horse and Foot which, with much beating of drums and blowing of trumpets, was now approaching the town.

There were those amongst Goring's troops who bore names held high in honour in England, younger sons of great families who had readily accepted commissions in the company known in many a field of battle as "Goring's Horse." But they had to reckon here with a resolute and sleepless foe.

Goring, being joined by Sir Thomas Austin's and Cleveland's Horse with some Foot, drew down in a body and faced Sydenham all that day, but strange to say, no summons came to surrender. The next day Sydenham captured a work which Goring's troops had thrown up about a furlong from the town at its north end, slaying some of his men.

#### PARLIAMENT REGAINS WEYMOUTH PROPER, FEBRUARY 25TH, 1645.

On the following Tuesday (the 25th) an incident occurred, apparently trivial, but which actually proved the turning point in the contest. A party of Royalist Horse conveying provisions to the town were completely routed by the Parliament men and some prisoners were taken. The Royalists in the Chapel Fort, apprised of this, sent out 100 Foot to relieve their Horse, who were flying before the Roundheads, and to regain the stores. Sydenham (who was then in the field with his Horse), taking advantage of this circumstance, adroitly drew out about 150 Musketeers, who, under the command of Major Wilson and Captain Langford, crossed the

bridge from Melcombe, and within an hour stormed and carried, with the loss of only one man, the Chapel Fort and Weymouth proper. The Royalists did not discover the enemy until they were on the outworks, and, probably overestimating their number, soon cried for "quarter." The Round-heads took 60 prisoners, also a Lieutenant-Colonel, a Major, three Captains, three Lieutenants, and 100 inferior officers and common soldiers, with one "of the perfidious townsmen, who after taking the covenant with us were got into arms against us" (\*). They also took prisoner Captain Alexander Keynes, the owner of Radipole Farm, described by Ince as "a Papist," and as having in his "Portmantle, a parcell of Holy Beads, a Commission for a Ship to play the Pirat with at Sea, which lay blank at Dunkirk." They also captured 40 loads of provisions of which they were at this time greatly in need.

This was a disaster which was bitterly regretted by the Royalists, who had held the fort for 17 days only. Sir Lewis Dyve, in reporting the loss to his step-father, the Earl of Bristol, described it as a "strange misfortune," and wrote to Sir John Berkeley on the day of the disaster as follows:—"My Lord Goring hath set up his rest to go through with it, being confident of your speedy assistance in a worke of that infinite importance to his Majestie's service.....so that this place being taken, which wee are confident cannot be a worke of many dayes, the west is not only secured thereby, but my Lord Goring will likewise have an opportunity of advancing into the associated counties, which are now left naked."

The Nothe Fort and the small fort at Bincleaves remained in the hands of the Royalists, but these were of small account, while their adversaries held the Chapel Fort. On the two following days the two neighbour towns battered away hard at one another "both with great and small shott."

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\* Ince.

LORD GORING'S UNSUCCESSFUL NIGHT ATTACK,  
FEBRUARY 28TH, 1645.

Exasperated by Sydenham's recent success, Goring determined to carry Melcombe and Weymouth by assault in the night of Thursday, February 27th. Ince, however, says that Goring "had no great stomack to the businesse." Ill-fortune again attended the Royalists. Ince states that Goring "so guarded all wayes that no intelligence must come neer us." Notwithstanding, a Roundhead, who had been taken prisoner two or three days before, "though very strictly watcht," managed to escape from Weymouth on the evening of the intended assault (or on that of the preceding day) and reaching Sydenham's Horse, then in the field, warned him of the impending blow, with the result that the Roundheads placed themselves in the best position of defence. Captain Batten, too, came on shore with 100 seamen. Meanwhile, Goring marched from Dorchester with his whole body, and about one or two o'clock in the morning of Friday, 28th of February, attacked, at the same time, both towns, in several places, (the larger number attacking at the west end of Weymouth proper), and also attacked the Chapel Fort. It was a bright moonlight night. Sydenham says, (\*) "they furiously stormed us at severall places of both Townes. . . . The enemy came in great multitudes thorow the streets and backsides at both ends of the Towne and disputed with us very hotly about three houres." The Royalists at the north end of Melcombe lay behind a bank and did not come to close quarters, but fired at a distance. At the western end of Weymouth proper, Sydenham resorted to a stratagem; he vacated the guard there (near the old Town Hall) and made a "barricado" in High-street (which lay immediately beneath the Chapel Fort), planting a gun there. The Royalists gave a "loud hoop"

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\* Letter from him, to the Committee of the West, March 1st, 1644.

of joy as they entered the deserted work, but marching down the street were repulsed by the Roundheads, leaving some dead and carrying away others to Dorchester and elsewhere for burial. Meanwhile, the Irish and other Royalists from the Nothe Fort attacked and took a small fort near the bridge in Weymouth proper, commanded by Captain Thornhill, forcing the Parliament men to retreat, but, Sydenham coming on the scene rallied his men, and, after some sharp fighting, the fort was recovered, some of the Royalists being slain. Sydenham's horse was here shot under him. In the result the Cavaliers were defeated in all quarters and beaten back into their works. Sydenham's men retained all Weymouth proper, except a small part towards the Nothe ; they also repulsed the enemy in Melcombe. Many of the Royalists were drowned. According to Ince, the latter reported their losses, in and subsequently to Sydenham's assault on the Chapel Fort, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, at 400 or 500—(these numbers were probably much exaggerated),—and, it was said, that 80 dead and wounded were carried to the adjoining village of Wyke Regis. Amongst the dead and wounded there were, Sydenham adds, "divers in Buff-coats and Velvet Jackets."

#### RAISING OF THE SIEGE, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1645.

It seems that the Royalists now suspected the near approach of the Parliamentary forces under Sir William Waller, who, had been ordered to relieve Weymouth, but had been delayed owing to his Cavalry having broken out into open mutiny. Consequently, about ten o'clock on the morning of Friday, February 28th, the Royalists under Lord Goring and Sir Lewis Dyve suddenly drew out their forces, abandoning the Nothe and Bingleaves Forts, leaving behind them their colours, and the guns for the most part unspiked, with much arms and other booty, and without burning the corn or houses, "and so," Captain Batten wrote, "are gone in a very confused

manner.”\* They withdrew to Wyke Regis, where they remained for a short time to succour the wounded, and then marched to Dorchester, and afterwards towards Taunton. This ended the siege of Melcombe, which had lasted 18 days. Thus both towns were regained by the Parliament after continuous conflicts. The loss of these two important coast towns was a great disaster to the Royalist cause.

The losses of the Roundheads, throughout, were marvelously small. They attributed their success to the interposition of Divine Providence. Sydenham says in reference to Goring's assault “ In all this time they wounded but one of my men.”

Considering the great inequality of the forces engaged and the weakness of Melcombe, it is strange that the siege should have continued so long. It seems to have been due to extraordinary negligence on the part of Goring. He was a man of distinguished presence and is said to have been every inch a soldier, but he cut a sorry figure on this occasion.

The Parliament soldiers at the end of the fight were in sad plight. Sydenham wrote on the day the siege was raised : “ My souldiers Horse and Foot have all had very hard service of it day and night. I shall entreat you to write to the Parliament for something for their encouragement ; they have neither money nor cloathes, and yet unwearied in this business.”

#### PARLIAMENT POSSESSES ALL DORSET.

The whole county was now possessed by Parliament, except Portland, Sherborne, and Corfe Castle. Portland Castle surrendered to Captain Batten about a year after the

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\* Letter from Captain Batten to Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons, February 28th 1644. The like from Colonel William Sydenham of even date.



rout of the Royalists in Melcombe (viz., on April 6th, 1646)\* and Sherborne and Corfe Castle having been captured, the reduction of the County to the Parliamentary forces was completed.

THE HANGING OF THE ROYALIST CONSPIRATORS,  
MARCH 3RD, 1645.

Colonel Sydenham, the Governor of Weymouth, lost no time in dealing summarily with the chief Royalist conspirators in the plot for surprising the forts. Captain Batten had them, with many other prisoners, on board his ship, "in a posture speedily to be hanged," and wrote to the Speaker of the House of Commons as to the prisoners:—"To-morrow, we shall shorten the number by hanging some of the townsmen who are prisoners on board us and were the betrayers of the town." Accordingly a council of war was held on Saturday, March 1st, 1645, and on several succeeding days, before the Governor, all the field officers and captains of the Weymouth Garrison, Captain Batten, Admiral of the Fleet then riding in Weymouth Bay, and divers other sea Captains. Captain Cade, the coadjutor of Fabian Hodder, made a confession and was hanged; Samways, a Melcombe tailor, was brought to the gallows to be hanged; but, expressing much sorrow for his treachery, he, and Walter Bond, the Hope fisherman, were reprieved and carried back to prison, "to make a further discovery of their partners."† One of the

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\* Captain Batten, in reporting the surrender of Portland to Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons, wrote April 7th, 1646, "When they march'd away. . . they had not a colour in the island. As to the sequestration of their estates. . . there is not a hundred pounds a year amongst them all, the Governour excepted. . . . The island was very stronge and would have cost much blood to have reduced it by force. . . . There is more to be done on the island with a faire carriage than by violence."

† Mercurius Britanicus No. 75.



plotters, "an Irish rebell, a native Papist, put a rope about his own neck and hanged himself . . . without judgement or execution, doing all upon himself." Then, as regards Mills, the Constable, the report of the council of war states that he died "most desperately," "without any signe or token of sorrow or repentance," and that "when he was upon the Ladder, he most desperately threw himself off, not shewing any signes of humiliation, or calling upon God for mercie on his soul, but, carelessly, in a most desperate manner, died, not so much as praying to God to receive his soul." The hangings took place at the Nothe point, on the Monday morning following the first sitting of the council of war. Peter Ince adds with some bitterness, "There be not many of the villains left, but their sin hath found them out." As to these, the report continues, "Divers of them are slain, Fabian Hodder and others are in Prison at Poole and other places, not yet tried, and some are run away." Sydenham threatened to make a halter for Fabian Hodder's neck, he being the chief conspirator, but he contrived to escape and, returning to Melcombe, became, after the Restoration, a member of the Corporate body.

#### PUBLIC THANKSGIVING, MARCH 12TH, 1645, &c.,

On the 4th March following, an Order was made by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, for a Public Thanksgiving to be held on the 12th inst. for the success of the Parliament Forces in (inter alia) the regaining of Weymouth.\*

The following appears in "*Mercurius Britannicus*" communicating "the affaires of great Britaine For the better Information of the People, From Monday the 14 of April to Monday the 21 of April, 1645," viz.:—"Divers Orders

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\* Minutes of Parliament.

passed for payment of monies to the Garrisons of Lyme, Weymouth, and other places. But especially let Lyme and Weymouth be remembred, for never in any Nation did two places ennoble themselves by more gallant action. May we alwayes remember the famous services of Sydenham and Ceeley. May they be a patterne of imitation to others in like cases of extremitie." Colonel Thomas Ceely was Governor of Lyme Regis, under the Parliament, during the notable siege of that town.

A month after the raising of the siege of Melcombe, the Vice-Admiral issued a warrant for clearing the streets of the soil and ruins which encumbered them, and for this purpose Lighters were impressed.

The Parliament retained possession of the towns until the termination of the war, brought about by the final overthrow of the Royalist cause at the Battle of Worcester, September 3rd, 1651. Soon afterwards nearly all the forts here (including the Chapel Fort) were dismantled and the materials sold.

#### EFFECTS OF THE SIEGE.

The townsmen had suffered ruinous loss and damage during the war. Many of their houses had been burnt or destroyed, others came toppling down in the streets, gardens had been dug up for soil with which to form earthworks, the church on the Chapelhay had been practically demolished, the bridge and the quays were in decay, and the harbour partly choked. The wall of the town marsh had been beaten down (why or wherefore I cannot say, possibly a battery had been placed there to reduce Melcombe); provisions had run short, all available supplies having been taken possession of by the military authorities, the streets had been reddened with the blood of those who had fought for King or Parliament. The townsfolk had, during part of the time, been at a charge of £30 per month to maintain soldiers quartered there, and

two guards, and had been subjected to the rapine and tyrannous conduct of the soldiery. The total loss of property was estimated at £20,000. What this must have meant to such small and very poor places, dependent almost entirely on fishing, the Newfoundland trade, and the revenue from the harbour, we can scarcely realise. Indeed for a time all was in chaos; trade was well nigh suspended; the Town Clerk had gone off during the wars, and such was the death-like torpor which prevailed, that the Corporation seem to have met twice only in about two years, and entries in the Parochial Registers of Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials were for long discontinued.\*

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\* In August, 1645, an Ordinance of Parliament was made, directing the Standing Committee of the County of Dorset to put in force a weekly assessment for six months, for the support of Colonel Edmund Massey's forces. This led to the presentation of a petition by the Weymouth Corporation to the Committee. A copy of this petition is here inserted, as it throws light on the state of the town at the time.

"The humble Petieon" &c. "sheweth that yor petrs have sustained great losses in their estate to the value of many thousand pounds by occasion of the warre and the late seige against this towne in which divers of their houses were burnt and destroyed & ye Inhabitants of Waymouth plundered of their goods, and before that, much of yor petrs lands wasted and their houses and buildings pulled downe and their goods ymployed for ye better fortifynge of ye Garrison; & have expended much in free quarteringe of Souldiers & cleansinge ye towne after the seige. And yor Petrs are hitherto at a great charge & trouble for ye maintenance of ye Garrison by quarteringe, Lights for ye Guard, watchinge and bearinge armes at their owne pper costs & charges pforminge that dutie of watchinge in their turnes as often as the souldiers, in weh yor petrs shall, with all readines & cheerefulnes continue as long as God shall enable them. And now yor Petrs are informed by ye Constables that aWarrant is granted by you for the raiseing of fouer pounds weekly upon them weh (by reason of ye pmisses & their extreame poverty for want of trade as in former times) yor petrs are not only unable to pay but are put to hard shifts for ye maintenance of their owne families & the poore amongst them. And therefore yor petrs are necessitated to present their condicon unto y<sup>r</sup> serious consideracon, Humbly prayinge that they may be freed from the payment of ye said weekly assessment."—\* Weymouth Corporation Records.

## A GHASTLY MURDER.

We now reach a period 17 months after the raising of the siege; the townsfolk have pretty well settled, amongst themselves, their political animosities, are clearing the narrow streets of the earth and rubbish deposited during the war, and are making good the damage done to their houses and gardens, when they are startled by an extraordinary story which forms the subject of gossip at every street corner. Personal narratives connected with sieges in the Civil War have not frequently come down to us in any detail. I will, therefore, relate this one. There is a well-known public passage which leads into New Street, on the South side of the Pawnbroker's shop in St. Mary Street, Melcombe Regis. This passage was called, until recently, Blockhouse Lane, because it led to a square stone-built Elizabethan fort, facing the bay, called "the Blockhouse." On the site of the pawnbroker's shop stood, during the Civil War, what is described in an old record, as "a house of entertainment," meaning, of course, an Inn or Public House. It was kept by a man named John Chiles. We learn that, at the time of the siege, owing to the perturbed state of the town, the house "was for the most part full of people day and night." The excitement which prevails at the time I was speaking of is in consequence of Chiles having just been arrested on a charge preferred against him of having, a few days after the siege, murdered a guest in his house. What stirs the populace so much is, that this terrible charge has been made by his own wife. Let us go to the ancient Town Hall in St. Edmund Street—probably an Elizabethan building—and hear the case which is about to be tried by the Borough Justices. Chiles' wife gives her evidence. She says that a Trader named William Courtney (who seems to have come from Taunton Dean) lodged at the house on the Thursday night after the siege; that he was a middle-aged man, with flaxen hair and yellow beard, and wore a short coat; that he was accommodated with a pallet of straw, by the bedside of

her husband and herself ; that he had with him £300 in a canvas bag, viz :—£52 in silver and the rest in gold ; that about midnight her husband asked her to agree to the murder of the trader ; that she replied that she feared to do so, lest she should be hanged, to which Chiles answered that “ it was noe matter for killinge of a man now t’was a tyme of warre ; ” that her husband then got up, took a hammer, and struck Courtney twice on the forehead, while asleep ; that he “ thereupon spraled, but spoke not at all ; ” that having cut away his “ shorte coate ” and part of his other clothes, she and her husband dragged the corpse down the stairs (her husband going before and she after), and carried it into an outhouse ; that her husband then looked into the street and, not seeing anyone, they together carried the corpse to some earthworks which had been constructed on the north side of the Blockhouse, and thence, apparently, along the shore, to the end of the old jetty or pier (near where the Custom House on the Quay now stands), and there threw it into the sea. There was, certainly, an appearance of truth about all this, because the jetty was the easternmost part of the quay in those days, and Chiles and his wife would naturally think that the body would be carried out into the bay. On their returning home the same way, they were challenged by the sentry at the Blockhouse, but met with no other hindrance. This gruesome business occupied an hour and a half in that dark winter night. When Chiles reached his home, he, to quote the words of his wife, “ strooke fire and lighted a candle, and told the money in their low room, on ye bare table which stands by ye window next ye strecte, and laide ye gould by itselke, and the white mony by itselke, and then putt it up agayne into the said bagge,” and then they both went to bed, her husband saying “ that that mony would make them both.”

Apparently, Chiles’ wife must have been actuated by extraordinary malice in bringing this accusation against her husband, so long after the event, especially as by so doing she, as an accomplice, might have risked her own neck.



Chiles denied the charge *in toto*. The body was not recovered, and, in fact, conflicting evidence was given to show that Courtney was still alive. The wife's statement, however, was so circumstantial, that the Justices were greatly puzzled, and had the case under consideration for four months. At length, the prisoner was committed to the Dorset Assizes, for trial. Our curiosity as to the upshot of this seventeenth century trial cannot be gratified, for no report appears to be extant. Let us hope that justice was ultimately done. This was a *cause célèbre*, and the alleged ghastly murder of the man with the "flaxen hair and yellow beard" must have been remembered in Weymouth for many a long year.\*

### THE FAT CAPTAIN OF HORSE.

We now turn for a moment to an entirely different scene. Some time after the Civil War had ceased and the townsmen had quieted down, George Fox, the celebrated founder of the Quakers, visited Melcombe and held a meeting with the Quakers, who had become fairly numerous here. He met with a remarkable man amongst the Parliamentary troops quartered in the town. Fox speaks of him as a Captain of Horse. When Fox left the place, they rode together up the old Ridgeway road to Dorchester, and a very strange pair they were. Fox says, in his well-known "Journal," † "This Captain was the fattest, merriest man, the most cheerful and the most given to laughter that ever I met with." Fox, the grave Quaker, therefore felt bound to admonish him "to come to sobriety;" but, at first, to little effect, for Fox naïvely adds, "And yet, he would presently laugh at anything he saw." What a splendid character this fat,

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\* Weymouth Corporation Record (formerly Sherren Papers), 245, p. 78.

† Journal of George Fox, by W. Armstead, Vol. 1, 223.



cheery Captain of Horse would have made in Dickens' hands ! *Which* character, think you, would you have liked best, the fat boy in "Pickwick," who was always sleeping, or the fat Captain in Weymouth, who was always laughing ? I believe you would have preferred the merry Captain, who "would presently laugh at anything he saw." With this tribute to his memory, I conclude my Paper.





## Interim Report on the Excavations at Maumbury Rings, Dorchester, 1910.

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### *Committee :*

H. Colley March, M.D., F.S.A., *Chairman.*

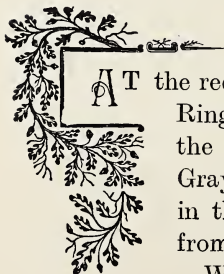
John E. Acland, *Hon. Sec.*, Dorset County Museum, Dorchester.

J. G. N. Clift  
R. H. Forster  
C. E. Keyser, F.S.A.  
R. E. Leader  
N. M. Richardson  
H. Pentin  
J. C Mansel-Pleydell  
H. Pouncy

*Representing the  
British Archæological  
Association.*

*Representing the  
Dorset Field Club.*

W. Miles Barnes  
H. B. Middleton  
Alfred Pope, F.S.A.  
C. S. Prideaux  
W. de C. Prideaux  
C. W. Whistler



AT the request of the Committee of the Maumbury Rings Excavation Fund, we again introduce the Report written by Mr. H. St. George Gray, dealing with the work carried out in the autumn of 1910, and which lasted from August 26th to September 24th.

We are glad to say that Mr. Gray has secured an excellent series of photographs, and has prepared accurate plans and sections of all the excavations. We are especially grateful to Mr. C. S. Prideaux, who provided the camping requisites, lived on

the ground, and shared with Mr. Gray the supervision of the workmen.

The Town Council of Dorchester once again showed their interest in the proceedings by the loan of hurdles ; Messrs. Lott and Walne supplied a shepherd's hut for use as an office ; Mr. Foot, Mr. Slade, and Mr. Feacey assisted by lending material and appliances, and we gratefully acknowledge their kind help.

The total receipts for the year amounted to £53 7s. 4d. and the expenditure to £83 6s. 11d. ; but, as there was a balance to the credit of the fund, brought on from last year, there is a small sum remaining in hand. Expenses connected with the preparation of this year's report and its distribution to subscribers have, however, still to be met.

After three seasons' work, in three successive years, we propose to make a pause in the course of the excavations, so that we may give due consideration to the important, and, in some respects, the unexpected features already revealed, and have time to decide on any future action that may be necessary in order to complete the investigations.

*Signed on behalf of the Committee,*

H. COLLEY MARCH, *Chairman.*

JOHN E. ACLAND, *Hon. Sec.*

*December, 1910.*

## SHORT REPORT ON THE EXCAVATIONS OF 1910.

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By H. ST. GEORGE GRAY.

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### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATES ACCOMPANYING THIS REPORT :—

PLATE I.—Sketch-plan of Maumbury Rings, based on the plan made by Mr. J. Feacey previously to the excavations. It is intended to show the relative position of the cuttings made from 1908 to 1910, but the scale is too small to attempt to show any of the structural details.

PLATE II.—Cutting XIX., N. Entrance, September 15th, 1910. Photograph taken from the N.N.E., showing the silting of the seventeenth century trench in section, with its solid chalk floor rising in a southerly direction. The levelling-rod (depth 6·5ft. below the surface) rests on the floor of the Roman entrance way, which gradually rises in a northerly direction; the dividing-wall, also of Roman date, is seen to diminish in height towards the north.

PLATE III.—Cutting XII. Extension, September 19th, 1910. Photograph taken from the slope of the terrace on the W.S.W., showing (1) a series of the quadrangular post-holes at the base of the arena-wall; (2) the position of six strut-holes on the top of the wall; (3) the slope of the terrace on the left-hand side; (4) the "gangway" between the arena-wall and the "inner trench"; (5) the solid arena-floor, and its junction with (6) the prehistoric shaft, No. IV., partly re-excavated—right-hand side of the photograph; (7) "the inner trench," between the "gangway" and the shaft, seen in diminishing proportions as far westwards as its outline is represented by solid chalk. The rod is extended to a height of 9·5ft.

PLATE IV.—Cutting XX., September 21st, 1910. Photograph of the cutting, taken from the top of the highest part of the western terrace, looking S.S.E., giving a general view of the structural features revealed. The solid chalk wall covers a large part of the right-hand side of the photograph, its end representing the S.S.W. boundary of the quadrangular enclosure. In the foreground, a part of the flat platform is recessed into the wall. Between the wall and platform and the "gangway" the upper margins of three prehistoric shafts, Nos. V., VI., and VII., are seen; and beyond, the "inner trench," the arena-floor, and the group of stones found just above the floor level. *Owing to the necessary tilt of the camera, the view is somewhat distorted.*

# MAUMBURY RINGS

DORCHESTER

PLATE I.

L & S. W RAILWAY

SKETCH-PLAN  
OF THE  
AMPHITHEATRE  
SHOWING THE  
POSITION AND  
EXTENT  
OF THE  
CUTTINGS,  
1908-1910.

LONG AXIS

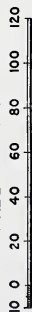
TRANSVERSE  
AXIS

A R E N A



CONSTABULARY STATION

SCALE OF FEET



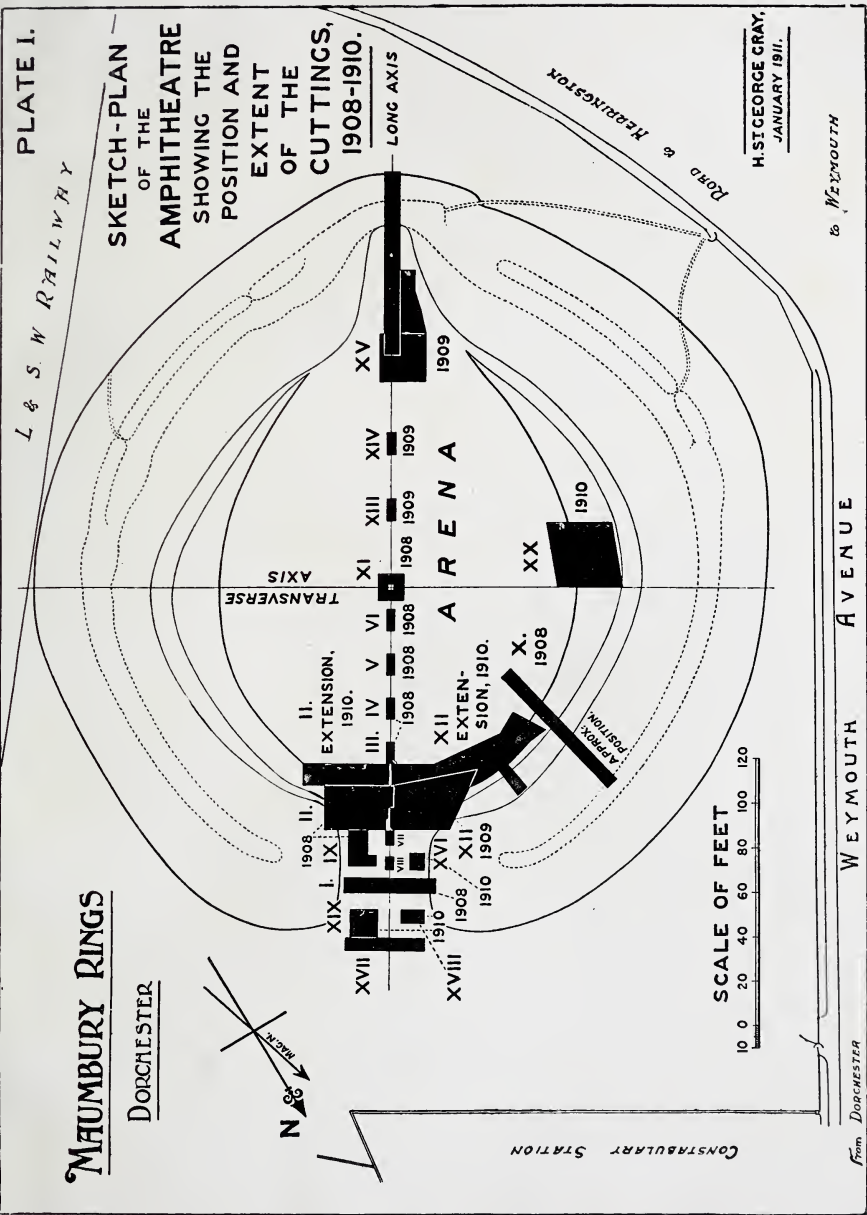
Road to HERRINGSTON

H. ST. GEORGE GRAY,  
JANUARY 1911.

to WEYMOUTH

W E Y M O U T H A V E N U E

From DORCHESTER





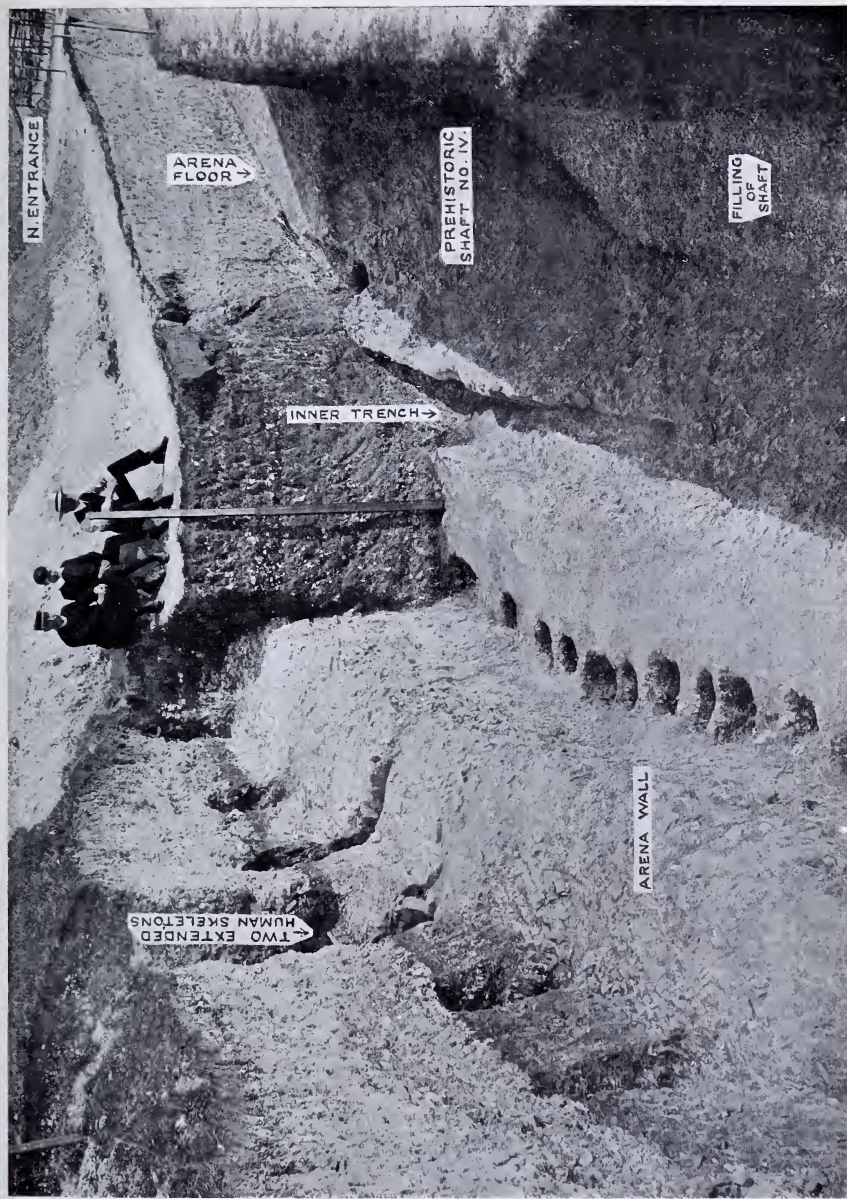




MAUMBURY RINGS, DORCHESTER, 1910.  
*(Full Title given at the beginning of the Report.)*

XVII CENTURY TRENCH, E. SIDE OF N. ENTRANCE.  
*From a Photograph by Mr. H. St. George Gray.*





MAUMBURY RINGS, DORCHESTER, 1910.  
(Full Title given at the beginning of the Report.)

MARGIN OF ARENA, AND SHAFT, ON THE NORTH.  
From a Photograph by Mr. H. St. George Gray.







MAUMBURY RINGS, DORCHESTER, 1910.  
(Full Title given at the beginning of the Report.)

WALLING, ENCLOSURE, SHAFTS, ETC., CUTTING XX.  
From a Photograph by Mr. H. St. George Gray.





## I.—INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

The third season's work has not only strengthened our knowledge of the details of structural interest exposed during the excavations of 1908 and 1909, but, as so many new features,—some of minor, some of much greater importance—have been revealed, the exact purposes of which are problematical, it has given rise to a general expression of opinion that the work must be continued if this deeply interesting archæological investigation is to be of lasting value; and it is felt that it should be finished in a manner acceptable to earnest antiquaries.

The Committee fully anticipates being in a position to continue the excavations in the summer of 1912, in which year the Liverpool Committee for Research in Wales hopes to renew the exploration of the amphitheatre known as "King Arthur's Round Table," at Caerleon. The two amphitheatres differ in an interesting manner, for whereas the formation of the structural details at Maumbury is the result of the removal of a large amount of chalk-rock, masonry is the chief feature prevailing at Caerleon.

Although no vestige of stone walls was in sight at the beginning of the Caerleon excavations, the first cutting made revealed an outer retaining-wall some 5·5ft. thick, with heavy external buttresses and smaller internal ones, apparently placed alternately. The inner or arena wall at a lower level, estimated to have been 7ft. high, was thinner and without buttresses, and although it has been much plundered, there are places in which the three courses are still standing. About 35ft. intervened between the two walls, but in this position no seats have been found. The arena appears to have been paved with river cobbles, covered with sand some 10in. thick. The southern entrance, which may have been vaulted, is about 9ft. wide between massively constructed jambs built of freestone blocks 4ft. in length. On the east, or north-east, there is another entrance, apparently with incurved sides.

A comparison of the size of the two amphitheatres will be interesting. The outside dimensions of the great embankment at Maumbury are approximately 345ft. on the long axis (N.N.E. to S.S.W.) and 333ft. transversely. The diameters, measuring from crest to crest of the embankment, are about 296ft. and 277ft. respectively ; whereas the longer axis of the Caerleon amphitheatre is about 274ft., and the shorter 226ft. (measured from the outer walls). Last year we ascertained that the length of the oval arena at Maumbury was 196ft., measured from the rounding-off of the arena-wall at the northern entrance to the most southerly point, excluding the floor of the "den," but coming up to its northern or arena margin. This measurement included the area covered by the "inner trench" ; but if that trench at the N. entrance is excluded the measurement is 192·5ft. (As yet the inner trench has not been traced on either side of the den.) It is doubtful, therefore, if the length of the arena-floor within the inner trench will reach 190ft. Judging by the excavation of Cutting XX. this year, on the W. side of the arena, the transverse axis of the arena-floor, within the inner trench, may prove to be about 157ft.\* The arena at Caerleon is said to be about 204ft. by 156ft.

As director of the excavations, I had the pleasure of continuing the work at Maumbury this year from August 26th to September 24th (the filling-in being completed on October 8th). The sub-Committee, consisting of Dr. H. Colley March, Captain J. E. Acland, Mr. C. S. Prideaux, the Rev. C. W. Whistler, and Mr. W. de C. Prideaux, as last year, rendered me most valuable support. Their friendly criticism and suggestions were always helpful, and their assistance in the general organisation of the investigations and supervision of the workmen was valued by nobody more than myself. In thanking them all, I should like

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\* Since this report was written I am informed by Captain Acland that "it is believed, from a trial cutting made under the eastern bank (after the director left the excavations, and when the filling-in was in progress) that the total width of the solid floor is 155ft."

to make special reference to Mr. C. S. Prideaux, and it goes almost without saying that he threw the utmost energy and enthusiasm into the work, and that in close investigations requiring extreme care, his assistance was invaluable. As before, the director has held himself responsible for the recording of the work, the preparation of all the plans, sectional diagrams and photographs,\* and care of the relics. It will be fitting here also to mention the names of Mr. F. Meade Falkner, Mr. Clement Reid, F.R.S., Dr. W. Wright, D.Sc., F.S.A., Mr. A. J. Jukes-Browne, F.G.S., and the Rev. C. W. H. Dicker, all of whom have kindly rendered help in connection with the investigations. As before, Mr. Prideaux lent his tents and camping outfit, and Mrs. St. G. Gray restored the antlers, human skull (Cutting XVIII.), and other objects.

In conjunction with this report readers are recommended to peruse the former reports to enable them to interpret the full significance of some of the structural details. The rough sketch-plan (Plate I.) is intended merely to show the outline of Maumbury Rings and the relative position of the cuttings already made. The detailed plans, sectional diagrams, and contoured map are reserved for the full report on the excavations.

During this season our knowledge of the northern or townward entrance, the many features in connection with the boundary of the arena, and the now numerous prehistoric shafts, has been greatly increased. The discovery of human skeletons has not only been a source of popular interest, but has proved of some anthropological importance, the remains including two skeletons of the Romano-British period and two of later date. The prehistoric shafts at Maumbury, the existence of seven now being known, have not only revealed numerous implements of red-deer antler, but their importance has been the more marked by the discovery of Neolithic pottery at

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\* Subscribers may see the full series of photographs (1908-1910) on applying at the Dorset County Museum.

the bottom of one of them. The season's work, too, has revealed the existence of a second quadrangular enclosure recessed into the arena-wall on the W.S.W.—of somewhat different character from the so-called “den” on the S.S.W. The floor at the northern entrance has been found to rise towards the north, with boundary-walls diminishing in height, but its limit has not yet been reached. The secondary trench, or entrance of seventeenth century date (the existence of which was known in 1908), bordering, and to a certain extent, mutilating the Roman entrance, has been traced towards the north, leaving no doubt in our minds of its direction and purpose. It has become evident that, owing to the former existence of shafts in the rock-chalk, the Romans had to contend with considerable difficulties in the construction of the arena floor and its boundary walls in the northern, western, and southern parts of the amphitheatre (the E. and S.E. limits of the arena have not yet been examined). In the N. and N.N.W. the arena-wall of solid chalk was weak and deficient, and the “inner trench,” for the erection of an inner barrier to the arena, instead of being hewn out of the virgin chalk, was in places formed in chalk rubble and rammed chalk over the mouth of a prehistoric shaft. On the W.N.W. three of these shafts were interposed between the arena-wall and the inner trench for a considerable distance.

From levels of the solid chalk floor taken in various places, it was ascertained that from the W.N.W. side of the arena (Cutting XX.) to the E.N.E. side (most easterly part of Cutting II. Extension) the arena floor gradually fell to the extent of 1.25ft., probably for the purpose of draining the floor from W. to E. The chalk floor in the most northerly cutting of the entrance (Cutting XVII.) was found to be 2.25ft. higher than the arena-floor on the E.N.E., and 1ft. higher than the arena-floor on the W.N.W. ; and the floor in Cutting XVI., N. entrance, was practically at the same level as the latter.

As yet, we know nothing with any certainty of the age of the embankment which encloses the arena, and, before the work at Maumbury is complete, it will be necessary to make at least

one large cutting from the arena-floor through the modern terrace, above the arena-wall, and through the great embankment to its outer limits.

## II.—THE NORTHERN ENTRANCE.

(See *Cuttings I., II., VII., VIII., and IX., Report, 1908 ; and Cutting XII., Report, 1909.*)

This season's Cuttings XVI., XVII., XVIII., and XIX., were made in the area comprising the northern entrance to the amphitheatre. As will be seen on reference to Plate I., they were of the following dimensions :—Cutting XVI., 8ft. by 7ft., on the western side of the entrance ; Cutting XVIII., 10ft. by 6ft., also on the west ; Cutting XVII., 36ft. by 6ft., across the outer margin of the structure and at right angles to the long axis ; and Cutting XIX., 13ft. by 13ft., on the eastern side of the entrance and connected with the southern face of Cutting XVII.

Cutting XVI. was made to trace the continuation of the western boundary-wall of the entrance. The top of the wall was reached at a depth of 1ft. from the surface, and the floor of the Roman entrance at a depth of 5·7ft. The width of the entrance on the floor level in this position was 21·5ft. The sloping wall had been slightly recessed for the purpose of cutting a deep hole below the level of the floor for the erection of a post. This post-hole, No. xxxv., 10in. by 8in., was 2·9ft. deep ; its outline was clearly traced in the rammed chalk which filled the larger hole. The post-hole contained a large iron nail, to which traces of wood adhered. Close to the Roman floor a sharpened bone tool (No. 174) was found (Fig. 3), similar to a large number of such implements found in the Somerset Lake-villages.

Cutting XVIII. was also made to trace the western wall of the entrance and to ascertain the level of the chalk floor. Part of a Roman *tegulum*, No. 203, was found at a depth of



2.4ft., and two fragments of ornamented Romano-British pottery, No. 204, depth 3.8ft. The most interesting discovery, however, was a contracted human skeleton found lying on its left side close against the rock-chalk wall (the left patella actually touching the wall). The accompanying sketch, Fig. 1, gives a good idea of its position. The interment was not placed in a cut grave in the solid chalk, neither

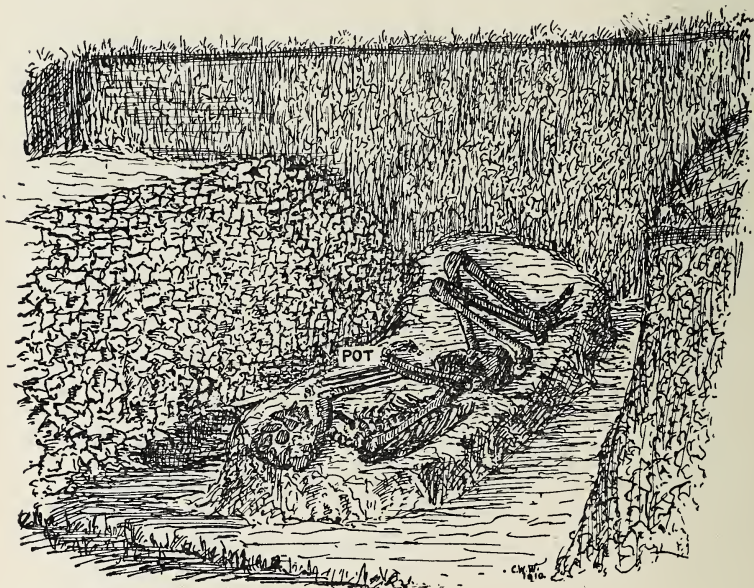


FIG. 1.—Contracted Human Skeleton, having a Romano-British Pot near the right hand. Found in Cutting XVIII., N. Entrance.

(From a Sketch by the Rev. C. W. Whistler.)

did the skeleton rest upon the solid floor, which was reached at an average depth of 6.25ft. below the surface; it rested on loose silting about a foot above the Roman entrance-way. The head, which faced W.N.W., was to the south, the feet to the N. The skeleton was in sequence with the knees greatly flexed; the trunk rested on its back, inclining slightly to the



N.W. ; length from crown of skull to the phalanges of the left foot, 4'1ft.

In uncovering the bones a large number of small flint flakes were observed, about seventy examples being preserved. But the most interesting object found with the skeleton was the greater part of a small Romano-British vase (No. 205) discovered in some fifty fragments, almost touching the right hand ; height  $4\frac{1}{2}$ in., diameter at rim  $3\frac{3}{4}$ in., blackish-brown colour. It bears slight traces of the burnished lattice pattern, and in form is precisely similar to common vessels found in the Rotherley village.\*

The skeleton is that of a male of middle age, and I am informed by Dr. Wright, who has examined the bones, that they " abundantly testify that they belonged to an unusually muscular subject, this statement being based upon (1) the rough impressions which the bones bear for muscular attachments, and (2) the muscular curving and twisting of the shafts of the bones."

My measurements of the skeleton show that the individual was dolichocephalic, or long-headed, with a cephalic index of 73·9, and that his stature was about 5ft. 7·3in. The mean stature of the tallest men from the three Romano-British villages excavated by General Pitt-Rivers was 5ft. 7·7in. The Maumbury man had extremely short upper arms, especially the left ; the right fore-arm on the other hand was abnormally long. The shortness of the right upper-arm was made up for by the great length of the fore-arm. Unfortunately the remains of the left fore-arm are insufficient to decide whether its length compensated for the extreme shortness of the upper-arm.

Cutting XVII. was made at right angles to the long axis of Maumbury and just outside the great gap in the embankment on the N.N.E. (*See* Plate I.) Its purpose was to ascertain whether the entrance-way into the amphitheatre, cut out of

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\* " Excavations in Cranborne Chase," II., Pl. cviii., Figs. 2, 3, 4.

the solid chalk, extended further towards the town, and if so whether the same level of the chalk floor was maintained. The limit of the entrance was not reached, and there was a decided rise towards the N. in the level of the floor.

The excavation revealed the western chalk wall in diminished proportions, at the base of which, cut into the chalk floor, was a grave containing a small contracted skeleton, probably female, in a bad state of preservation. (Fig. 2.) The grave was of an

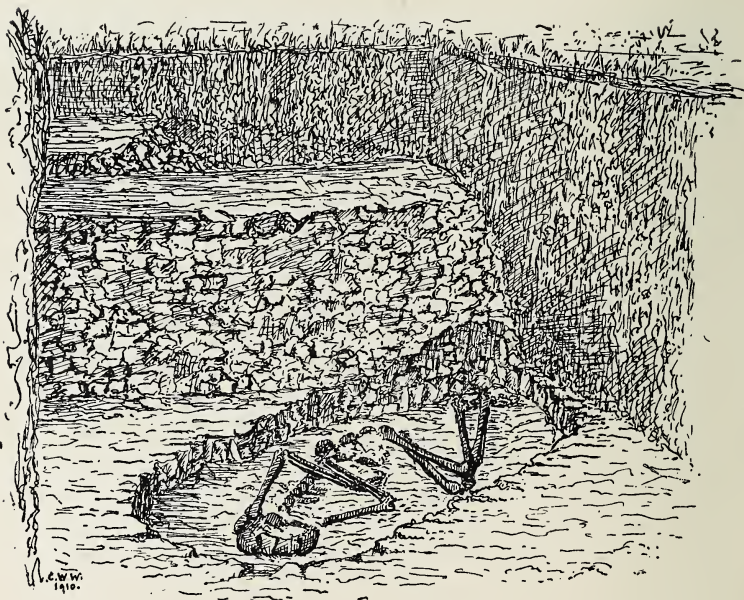


FIG. 2—Contracted Human Skeleton, Romano-British. Found in Cutting XVII., N. Entrance.

(From a Sketch by the Rev. C. W. Whistler.)

irregular oval form, 4·3ft. by 2·3ft., its line being true N. and S., and therefore not parallel to the line of the entrance-way; it was quite shallow as far as the solid chalk is concerned, 0·9ft. deep at the N., and 0·35ft. at the S. The skull was

0·4ft. from the S. end of the grave, the feet touching the N. margin. The skull, which was much shattered, faced E.N.E. ; it was 5·5ft. deep, and this was also the average depth of the floor beneath the surface. The bones were in sequence. According to the measurement of long-bones made in the ground, the estimated stature works out as 4ft. 7·65in. Associated with the skeleton, which no doubt belongs to the Romano-British period, were two small well-struck flint flakes and part of the jaw of a young pig found at the back of the human skull.

A burnt *dupondius* of Claudius I., A.D. 41–54 (No. 202), was found within 2in. of the chalk floor and only 3·5ft. from the S. margin of the grave. It is of similar type to the coin of Claudius found on the floor in Cutting II., 1908.\* A “third brass” coin, unidentifiable (No. 190), was uncovered at a depth of 1·4ft.

At the E. end of the cutting somewhat unexpected structural details revealed themselves, and there were clear trace of former digging—no doubt indications of the excavations made by Mr. Alfred Pope and the Dorchester Town Council in 1879, when search was made for the large stone supposed to have been buried in the entrance.† The 1879 digging, which happily does not appear to have penetrated rock-chalk, extended beyond Cutting XVII. into Cutting XIX. The “finds” we made here consisted only of modern shards. The solid chalk was reached at a greater depth at the E. end of the cutting, the width of the Roman floor, on the west, ceasing at 18·3ft. from the foot of the W. boundary wall.

Cutting XIX. was on the E. side of the entrance and connected with the S. margin of Cutting XVII. (*See* Plate I.). No relics of importance were found here, beyond a few shards of glazed pottery referable to the seventeenth century, a leaden bullet, a small iron cannon-ball (No. 206), depth 1·3ft.,

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\* *Report*, 1908, p. 12. *Proc. Dor. Field Club*, XXIX., 266.

† *Proc. Dor. Field Club*, VII., 67 ; XXI., 107.

and a piece of human parietal bone (No. 208), depth 1·9ft., the two latter close against the E. wall, which at the N. end stood at an angle of 85°. All the silting was cleared out down to the solid chalk, and a most interesting succession of strata, revealing the outline and deposits of a secondary trench, presented itself along the S. face of the cutting, as seen in Plate II. This ditch, which is no doubt of the Civil War period, was first met with in Cutting I., 1908,\* and traced in diminishing proportions towards the arena in Cutting IX. But at the S. margin of Cutting XIX. it was found to be deeper and wider, viz., 4·8ft. deep, 11·4ft. wide at top (below surface mould), and 6ft. at bottom; at the N. margin of Cutting XVII. the depth increased to 7ft. It was noticed that the eastern chalk wall was hewn to a smoother face than elsewhere in the amphitheatre, denoting, as proved on other grounds, a different and later date.

On reference to Plate II. it is seen that there is no great difference in level (only 1·5ft.) between the bottom of the seventeenth century trench and the floor of the Roman entrance. The further we went northwards the more the chalk bottom of the modern trench declined, and the more the Roman floor rose; but the trench ran down at a slightly steeper pitch than the Roman floor rose.

As the Roman boundary-wall in this cutting extended northwards, so it diminished in height, till the level of the receding floor of the late trench and that of the rising Roman floor were precisely the same; and it will be obvious that on going still further northwards, the Roman wall ceased (although it undoubtedly existed previously to the Civil Wars), while the bottom of the late trench was not only bounded by a high chalk wall on the E., but also by a slight wall increasing in height, on its western limits.

The rise in the Roman floor from the S. margin of this cutting to the N. margin of Cutting XVII. was 0·8ft.

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\* *Report*, 1908, pp. 7-8. *Proc. Dor. Field Club*, XXIX., 261-2.

## III.—CUTTING II. EXTENSION.

This cutting was made as a southern continuation of Cutting II., 1908,\* in order to examine the arena just beyond the N. entrance, and to follow the arena-wall and inner trench toward the E.S.E. The area examined measured 40ft. E. and W. by 10ft. N. and S. (Plate I.).

The arena-floor in the middle and western part of the cutting was reached at an average depth of 5·5ft. ; it was well preserved and even, falling in an easterly direction to the extent of 0·25ft. in the length of the cutting. In one place it was found to be covered to a depth of 0·25ft., with a deposit of sandy loam.

On the arena-floor, or just above it, the following objects were found :—No. 178, fragment of red Samian pottery (Fig. 4) ; No. 179, iron spear-head with split socket, having a blade (bent) of narrow leaf-shaped outline (Fig. 3)† ; No. 182, temporal bone of a human skull ; No. 183, blade and part of the tang of a single-edged iron knife, length 4·18in. (Fig. 3) ; No. 184, bronze pin with slender stem and large solid spherical head, having in places an emerald-green coloured patination (Fig. 5)‡ ; No. 186, half an armlet of Kimmeridge shale, lathe-turned (Fig. 4)§ ; No. 193, an open-work bronze object, perhaps a belt or girdle ornament, or fastening, well patinated, broken off at the smaller end, and bent (Fig. 5) ; and a piece of Roman *tegulum*.

The rock-chalk arena-wall met with at the E. end was perhaps the best preserved and most imposing part exposed (height 7·75ft. above the bottom of the trench at its foot).

\* *Report*, 1908, pp. 10–13. *Proc. Dor. Field Club*, XXIX., 264–7.

† An iron javelin-head was found at Maumbury in 1908. *Report*, 1908, p. 14. *Proc. Dor. Field Club*, XXIX., 268.

‡ It is extremely top-heavy, and would therefore be unsuitable for decorating the person.

§ Such objects are found commonly among Roman remains in Dorset and elsewhere, and also in the lake villages of Somerset,



In the rammed chalk in its basal trench five rectangular post-holes (Nos. xxxvi. to xl.) were clearly traced, varying much in size (average sides 6in.) ; the spaces between them averaged 3ft. No. xl. contained a small piece of wood,

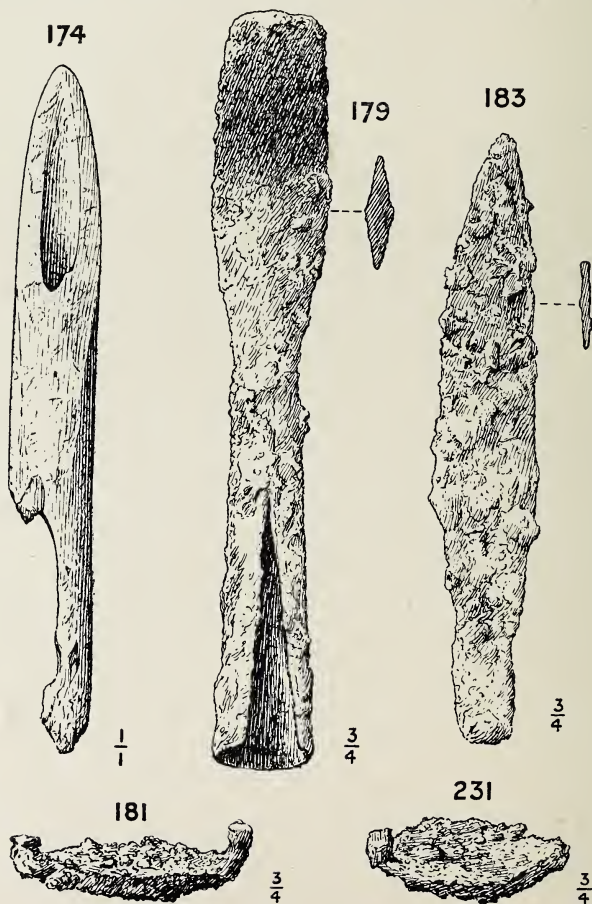


FIG. 3.—Relics found at Maumbury Rings, 1910.

174. Bone Tool. 179. Iron Spear-head.

183. Iron Knife. 181, 231. Iron Cleats.

(From Drawings by Mr. Ernest Sprankling.)

which, however, cannot be identified with certainty. The puddled and rammed chalk here was exceedingly hard and more difficult to remove than any of the rock-chalk near by. In it was found a fragment of red Samian pottery (No. 194).

The gangway, or passage, between this trench and the inner trench was about 2ft. wide, and was fairly even in all but the S.E. part, where, for a length of 6ft., the chalk was rugged, and left at a level equal to, or even higher, than the arena-floor.\* The smooth part of the gangway was 0·7ft. lower than the nearest part of the arena-floor. Over it several fragments of Romano-British pottery (No. 185) were found, and at a depth of 4·2ft. below the surface an iron cleat (No. 181) was uncovered (Fig. 3). Its use as portion of the iron furniture of sandals, or shoe leather, is proved by the discovery of specimens with a quantity of hob-nails at the feet of skeletons at Rotherley and Bokerly Dyke. A specimen was also found on the old surface line under the rampart of the Wansdyke in N. Wilts,† and others have been found at Silchester, &c.

The inner trench which was previously traced for some distance in Cutting XII., 1909,‡ was very clearly defined in this cutting, extending from the large smooth-sided circular pit containing Post-hole No. ix. to the extreme E.S.E. corner of the digging. It varied in width at top from 1·7ft. to 2·2ft. ; at bottom from 0·7ft. to 1·5ft. It was about 1·2ft. deep below the gangway and from 1·8ft. to 2·4ft. below the arena-floor. This part of the inner trench differed from other parts (Cuttings XII. and XX.) in having no ledge, or step, on its outer side, but the filling consisted of chalk rubble along the outer half and mixed mould and fine chalk along the inner side. In two places post-holes (Nos. xli. and xlii.) were distinctly traced in the trench, the bottom of the holes

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\* The reason for this cannot be determined unless the cutting is extended further southwards.

† "Excavations in Cranborne Chase" II., 190 ; III., 102, 106, 129, 270, &c.

‡ *Report*, 1909, pp. 9-10. *Proc. Dor. Field Club*, XXX., 221-2.

slightly penetrating the rock-chalk bed.\* Very few objects were found in this trench ; they consisted of a few scraps of iron, including some nails, a piece of New Forest ware, small fragments of Romano-British pottery, and part of the base of a red Samian bowl (No. 189), bearing the maker's mark **OF. SEVER I**. Severus was a potter of La Graufesenque about A.D. 50-60.

An entirely new structural feature was met with here, which has given rise to some discussion. I refer to the rough, shallow, flat-bottomed gutter connecting one oval and three oblong pits, the centres of which were 5·5ft. apart. This row of holes, which was on the curve, was on the arena side of the inner trench, to which it did not run quite parallel. The nearer margins of the two trenches on the east were separated to the extent of 1·75ft., but they met on the west at a distance of 16·7ft. E. of the long axis line ; and the westerly oblong pit was recessed into the inner wall of the inner trench. All the pits were about 1·9ft. deep below the arena-floor ; the oval pit was 2·1ft. by 1·8ft. at the top and the oblong pits averaged 2·25ft. by 1·25ft. Nothing was found in any of these holes, and no traces of the former existence of posts, as would be expected, had posts ever been permanently fixed in this position. The holes may continue in a S.E. direction, but the point could not be determined this season. It is uncertain, therefore, whether this line of holes was constructed at the same time as the inner trench, or whether it existed previously ; in support of the latter view it is seen that the inner trench unites with the northern side of the most westerly of the oblong pits.†

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\* In one or two places in the trench traces of a buff-coloured substance were observed, which Mr. Jukes-Browne thinks very possibly may be burnt chalk. Over the inner trench in the E.S.E. corner of the digging traces of charcoal were noticed.

† It has been suggested that these pits may have contained the bases of posts or columns for the support of a *velarium* in this part of the amphitheatre.

## IV.—CUTTING XII. EXTENSION.

In the first place, this cutting was pegged out on the W. side of the long axis to correspond with Cutting II. Extension, to the W. end of which it joined, and the excavation was begun for the purpose of tracing the inner trench and examining the border of the arena-floor. (*See Plate I.*)

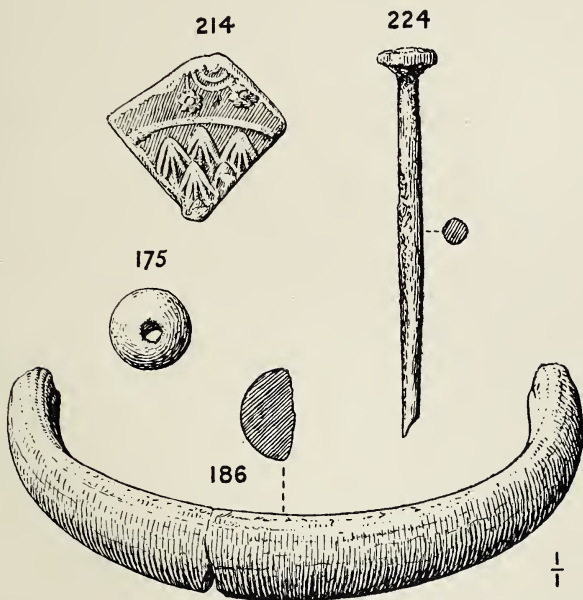


FIG. 4.—Relics found at Maumbury Rings, 1910.

175. Bead formed from a Fossil Hydrozoon.

186. Part of an Armlet of Kimmeridge Shale.

214. Red Samian Ware. 224. Bone Pin.

(*From Drawings by Mr. Ernest Sprankling.*)

The floor (average depth 5·5ft. below the surface) was found to be well preserved and fairly even up to a point 20ft. along the S. margin from its junction with Cutting II.

Extension ; but transversely the arena-floor in this position was found to fall from W. to E. to the extent of 0·6ft. in a length of 20ft.

The inner trench running obliquely across the western end of the cutting had the usual ledge, or step, along its outer margin, which supported rammed chalk, leaving a width of 1ft. for the trench proper.

On or near the level of the arena-floor a "third brass" coin of Tetricus I., A.D. 267-273 (No. 171), and a British imitation coin, IV. Century (No. 172), were found ; also a few fragments of pottery of the Roman period, including a piece of red Samian (No. 173). At a depth of 4·8ft., a globular bead (No. 175), formed from a fossil hydrozoon, *Phosphæra globularis*, was discovered (Fig. 4). On the floor and just over it ten iron nails were collected. The usual "shingle" was also observed ; it contained a large proportion of small water-worn fragments of quartz.

At 20ft. to the W.N.W. of the E. end of the cutting the Roman floor was no longer formed of solid chalk ; consequently we decided to extend the digging in a W.S.W. direction, the whole cutting in a straight line attaining a maximum length of 73ft., bringing the work practically up to the margin of Cutting X., 1908 (through the prehistoric shaft No. I., the terrace, and up the great embankment to its crest).

In this large area a number of interesting features became involved (*see* Plate III.), and we saw nothing more of a solid chalk arena, as the N. margin of an immense shaft (No. IV.) extended for a length of 49ft. to the W.S.W. end of the cutting, where, however, it did not terminate. The solid arena-wall also proved of interest, as it was more irregular here than elsewhere, and gradually diminished in size towards the W.S.W. In this excavation, too, the inner trench cut into solid chalk gradually disappeared as we proceeded, but its line was most clearly defined in the rammed chalk deposit over the mouth of the great shaft. The solid chalk gangway, or intermural space, between the arena-wall and the inner



trench, also diminished in size as our digging progressed, on account of the position of the shaft.

Bearing in mind the enormous amount of labour that would be entailed in clearing out the shaft and the limited time at our disposal, it was decided not to attempt its complete re-excitation, but we followed its N. margin down to a depth of 9·6ft. below the surface. The sides exposed were far from steep, shelving away at an angle of only 27° (Plate III.). A large number of flint flakes, some very large, of Neolithic type, were found below the Roman level, but no antler tools were discovered. We were rather reluctant to leave the mouth of this great shaft, but its re-excitation was not the primary purpose of our researches at Maumbury.

In tracing the inner trench westwards it was found that its inner edge and the margin of the shaft united, and still further west the trench became more feebly represented by rock-chalk (Plate III.). Ultimately the deepest part of the trench no longer had a solid bottom ; and as far as solid chalk was concerned, it ceased to exist ; but the Romans, finding this soft place made the best of the difficulty, as we shall show later on. The trench in this part contained seven iron nails and two pieces of Romano-British pottery.

Returning to the N.E. end of the shaft, an interesting structural feature was noticed close to its mouth and its sloping side, viz., a smooth-sided hole, semi-circular in outline, and having an even and flat bottom (Plate III.). Its N. margin was within 0·25ft. of the outer edge of the inner trench, the cutting of the latter by the Romans not having disturbed it. It contained a very fine deposit of marly chalk and about sixty well-struck flint flakes. It was quite evident (1) that the hole was once circular (diam. 2·2ft.), with sides almost vertical, and (2) that it had been sliced through obliquely at the time the shaft was sunk. No doubt it belongs, like the shaft, to the Neolithic period, but in point of years (or months) it was certainly anterior to the shaft itself. Nothing earlier in date than this circular flat-bottomed hole has been revealed at Maumbury.

Over the prehistoric shaft the deposits were of the same general character as elsewhere. On the level of the Roman floor, or just above it, a slender piece of iron, perhaps a stylus (No. 200), and part of the blade of an iron knife (No. 201), were found; also part of a slender armlet of Kimmeridge shale (No. 195), and a canine tooth of horse (No. 197), with a natural perforation at the root, and near that end a hole bored laterally meeting the other perforation—an object probably worn by suspension as an ornament. Two fragmentary human bones were also discovered on the floor level, viz., the upper left maxillary bone (No. 196), and a piece of parietal bone of skull (No. 226). Pottery of the Roman period was also collected.

At an average depth of 5·7ft. below the surface on the S. margin of the cutting, the Roman floor level was met with; it consisted of rammed chalk and appeared to have been repaired from time to time, owing to the gradual but slow subsidence of the loose chalk rubble in the mouth of the shaft. A number of fragments of pottery (Nos. 198 and 199), much of which was hand-made, but all apparently referable to the Romano-British period, together with remains of ox, horse, sheep, and dog, were found here, some scattered on the floor level; but the greater number of the relics were slightly deeper—both in and immediately below the rammed chalk—and they appear to have been deposited at the time the Romans were constructing their amphitheatre.

At the W.S.W. end, just inside the margin of the shaft but within the true width of the Roman gangway, two circular holes, presumably for posts, were discovered 5ft. apart; both of them were 0·55ft. in diameter; one extended to a depth of 1·4ft. below the gangway, where its diameter was only 0·25ft. Here, then, we have evidence of round posts with tapering bases. One circular hole was previously found over Shaft III. in front of the “den” (1909).

We must now revert to the inner trench, the outline of which we have already traced from the solid to the rammed chalk over the shaft. The outer ledge of the trench ceased

when the mouth of the shaft was approached, and after this the inner trench was no longer complex, but assumed a simple outline in the rammed chalk, depth 2ft., width at top 1·6ft., at bottom 0·7ft. An interesting feature revealed itself here, and less definitely in one or two other places near by, viz., the outline of a decayed barrier (0·35ft. thick) in the inner trench, the packing on either side consisting of a marly chalk intermixed with a little mould. These deposits are well shown in a sectional diagram which will be published hereafter.

The gangway was also defaced by the presence of the shaft, but the deficiencies in solid chalk were made up by the usual packing. Its level was very little lower than the adjacent arena-floor.

Here, the arena-wall was of a less imposing character than elsewhere, and its line was decidedly sinuous. There appeared to be some defect in the formation of the rock-chalk in this, the N.N.W. part of the amphitheatre, and it should be observed that the stratification of the chalk dipped to the S.S.E. The height of the wall, which was about 6ft. above the gangway in Cutting XII. (1909), diminished to about 5ft. at the N.E. end of the new cutting; in the middle it was little more than 4ft. high and further S.W. only 2·7ft. At the end of the cutting its height was still less, but the top was somewhat raised by means of rammed chalk. The lower face of the wall was practically straight, leaning northwards, at an angle of  $76^{\circ}$ , the upper part, to the back of the strut-holes (described below), being at an angle of  $18^{\circ}$ . From the latter point to the virgin chalk level under the foot of the great embankment, the arena-wall proper was capped by solid chalk, the face of which leaned at an angle of  $38^{\circ}$  towards the N. The natural level of the chalk was found to be 8·4ft. higher than the gangway, and the old surface line under the embankment, which was very clearly defined as dark brown soil, was 10·7ft. above the gangway at the foot of the arena-wall.

At the top of the wall where it sloped at an angle of  $18^{\circ}$  a series of six peculiar transverse grooves, or notches, were

traced at an average distance of 5·3ft. apart. All of them could not be traced to their termination, but two at least had oval enlargements on the N., running out in diminished proportions towards the edge of the arena-wall. Tentatively, we regard these slots as strut-holes, and the oval enlargements as mortise-holes. It is probable that, as the inner trench in this part of the amphitheatre was so weak structurally, it was found necessary to support the inner barrier by means of struts or strong cross-beams of timber, fixed in the dove-tailed mortise-holes. The outer barrier following the face of the arena-wall may also have been supported by struts, and the same supports may have connected the inner and the outer barriers.\*

It was in examining Strut-hole iv., the most carefully formed of the series, that two human skeletons were discovered lying across the enlarged oval end of the notch, the shoulders and legs resting on the solid chalk wall on its E. and W. margins respectively, the pelves coming over the central part of the hole. The skeletons, which were photographed from a staging specially erected for the purpose, were fully extended on their backs and were laid out as nearly as possible E. and W. The smaller skeleton, No. 1, was on the inner, or S. side ; No. 2, the larger, being on the N. Some of the cervical vertebræ of No. 1 were found in sequence, but there was no trace of the skull. The skull of No. 2 was much crushed, but it appeared to be facing S. or S.S.E. Before the filling-in began search was made for the missing skull at the feet of the skeleton, but without success. Only half-an-inch divided the pelves of the two bodies, and the upper arms almost touched. The right tibia of No. 2 crossed the left tibia of No. 1. The perfect long-bones were carefully measured, and by one of Rollet's formulæ the estimated stature of both has been

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\* Some double walls built of large blocks of stone, found in the Palace of Knossos, were joined by strong cross-beams of timber fixed in mortise-holes, the intramural space being filled with rubble. "The Palaces of Crete and their Builders," by Angelo Mosso, 1907, p. 127.

obtained, No. 1 being approximately 5ft. 9in., and No. 2, 6ft. 3in.

In relation to the old turf line under the terrace, which gradually rises towards the great embankment, the vertebral column of skeleton No. 1 was only 2in. below the surface, and the legs of both skeletons were 6in. deep; the top of the remaining skull practically reached the surface of the old turf. Above the skeletons, chiefly over the legs and feet, and within 2in. of the old surface, a number of fragments of slate were found (which Mr. Clement Reid says is not Delabole, but thinks it could be matched exactly in some of the quarries near the River Camel, a few miles above Padstow); also the stem and ward of an iron key, presumably of fifteenth-sixteenth century date, and what appear to be part of the beam of a small iron steelyard. A small iron clasp-knife (apparently sixteenth-seventeenth century) was found over the right tibia of skeleton No. 1, and about 1½in. below the surface of the old turf.

It is evident, therefore, that although these skeletons are of comparatively late date, judging from their position and the associated relics, they were deposited in this position before the terrace was thrown up, *i.e.*, before the middle of the seventeenth century.\*

We have yet to mention the line of rectangular post-holes at the foot of the arena-wall, which, for the most part, was left undisturbed; but a few of them were dug out to reveal the outline of the trench cut into the solid rock-chalk to receive them; it was about 1·2ft. wide at top and 1·5ft. deep. The

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\* Slate was used in the locality of its origin before Christ, British graves having been found lined with irregular slabs of slate. It is not known, however, when slates were first exported from Cornwall, but no doubt before the seventeenth century. Richard Carew in "The Survey of Cornwall," 1602 (p. 6), says:—"This slate is in substance thinne, in colour faire, in waight light, in lasting strong, and generally carrieth so good regard, as (besides the supplie for home provision) great store is yeerely conveyed by shipping both to other parts of the Realme, and also beyond the Seas, into Britaine and Netherland."



posts (Nos. xliii. to lix.) were extremely irregular in position and size, varying from 6in. by 7in. to 12in. by 12in. Those at the ends were about 3·15ft. apart. Those in the middle area were in close order, no less than eight being included in a length of 10·8ft., and they were opposite the position where the inner trench was gradually changing from a trench having a solid chalk profile to one formed in rammed chalk. The only relics gathered from these holes were two pieces of Romano-British pottery and three iron nails (two bearing traces of wood adhering to the stems).

In the material forming the seventeenth century terrace and on the old surface below it, a number of glazed shards of the period were collected. But of much more importance was the finding of a coin (No. 192) in the old turf under the slope of the terrace, a discovery which greatly strengthened our former evidence of the late date of the internal terraces at Maumbury. This coin was a well-preserved specimen of a hammered threepence of Queen Elizabeth, struck at the Tower Mint, London, and bearing the rather rare date 1564 (Fig. 5). A photograph was specially taken to show its position; it must have been in the turf when the terrace was thrown up.

#### V.—CUTTING XX.

##### ROMAN AND LATER.

This cutting was made on the western margin of the arena through the highest part of the modern terrace (Plate I.). The area was not rectangular, but its four sides all measured 30ft. in length. The N. margin was on the transverse (W.N.W.—E.S.E.) axis of the amphitheatre, the E.N.E. corner of the cutting being 75·5ft. from the central picket of the arena. The slope of the terrace was steep here (angle 30°), and a large amount of labour was expended in clearing away the many tons of material from the old surface on which the terrace had been raised. This old turf line (0·65ft. thick) was very

clearly defined, and is well seen in the photograph (Plate IV.). In the terrace material no relics were found except glazed pottery and a leaden bullet.

The first thing of structural interest to reveal itself was the solid arena-wall, which was reached at a vertical depth of 7ft. in the W.S.W. corner of the cutting. In following the wall downwards, it was found to be very irregular in outline and of large proportions, its height proving to be about 8.25ft. above the arena-floor. Near its top, two shallow semi-circular recesses were cleared, which bore some resemblance to the strut-holes in Cutting XII. Extension. At a lower level, on a prominent angle of the wall, a puddled white patch was noticed, which Mr. Jukes-Browne thinks is a natural deposit, probably tufa, *i.e.*, carbonate of lime formed by the evaporation of hard water.

At a greater depth the face of the wall was covered to a great thickness by large chalk rubble silting, and as no solid chalk was reached at the level at which the arena-floor would be expected, it soon appeared obvious that we had to deal with one or more shafts sunk in the rock-chalk, indeed a dividing-ridge between two shafts was subsequently found.

Proceeding to clear the N. quarter of the cutting we discovered a large area deeply recessed into the solid chalk wall. Having removed a large amount of mixed silting, followed by chalk rubble, a solid platform was exposed, bounded on the W.N.W. by a clean-cut chalk wall practically vertical in the lower 4ft., and on the S.S.W. by a leaning return wall diminishing in height from W. to E. in conformity with the contour of the arena-wall (already described), its face being broken by a deep recess into the solid chalk (Plate IV.). The E.S.E. of the enclosure was open towards the arena, its border being very irregular, owing to the presence, as we afterwards found, of the mouths of one or two shafts, and the consequent disturbance of the rock-chalk in this position. With regard to the N.N.E. extent of the cutting it was found that it did not represent the N. limit of the platform by probably many feet, and it is to be regretted that it was impossible to extend the

digging this season in the direction required. The level area uncovered was 12ft. long by 10·8ft. at the widest part.

It is an interesting fact that this enclosure was 1·15ft. higher than the nearest part of the arena-floor and 1·85ft. higher than the so-called gangway in this cutting. Its surface was smooth and well worn, as if by constant treading. The only relics found in clearing the silt here were part of a globular bowl of Romano-British pottery (No. 225), an iron ring (No. 220), 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter, and a "third brass" coin of Tacitus, A.D. 275-6 (No. 217), tinned and finely preserved, with mint mark **CA**—struck probably at Arelatum (Fig. 5).

In a line from S.S.W. to N.N.E., towards the front of the platform and about 6·5ft. from the W.N.W. wall, three holes were found in the floor about 3ft. apart. They varied very much in size and shape, the most southerly (that seen in Plate IV.) being the largest, 1·75ft. by 1·4ft. at top, and 1·25ft. deep ; in it a tail-bone of fox was found.

Along the base of the S.S.W. return wall a trench was cut in the solid chalk extending from the W.N.W. wall for a distance of 6·6ft., *i.e.*, up to the line of the three holes above mentioned. At both ends it was deepened (max. depth 2ft.), presumably to form socket holes for two posts ; all these features are well shown in the drawings of details. The object of these posts is not clear, unless they were intended to carry a hoarding, which hardly seems likely, as it would obscure the deep recess penetrating the end wall (Plate IV.). The flat base of the recess, irregular in plan, did not extend to the level of the platform by about 2ft. The sides (max. height 3·7ft.) were smooth, and in one place in particular, long vertical tool-marks were observed, of which a cast was taken. Half-way down the recess a large iron nail and a fragment of Romano-British pottery with bead rim (No. 218) were found ; and in the mixed silting in front of the recess and over the trench a bronze brooch (No. 216), in a good state of preservation, was discovered (Fig. 5). It is of the La Tène III. type, of a form found at Winterborne Kingston (Dorset County

Museum, No. 156), and in the Romano-British villages excavated by General Pitt-Rivers.

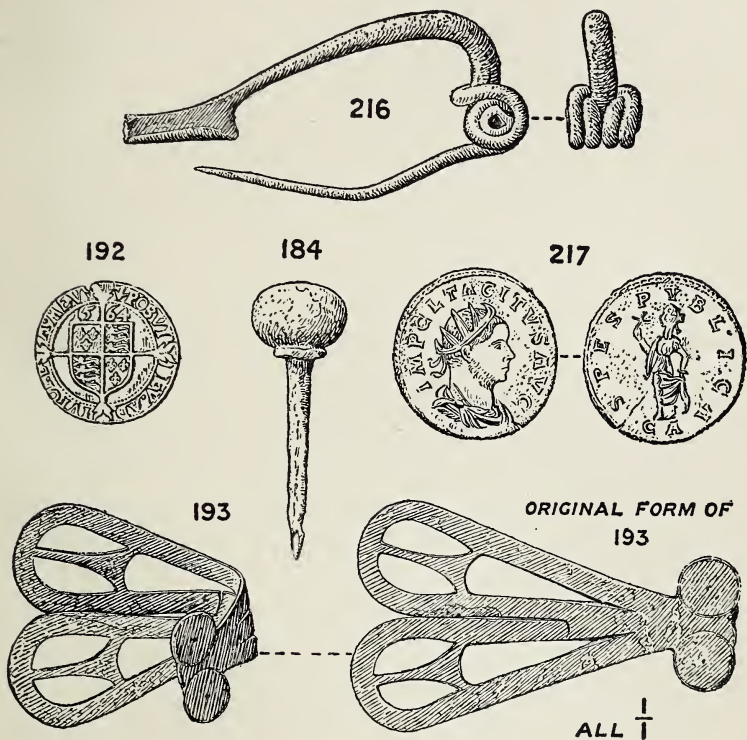


FIG. 5.—Relics found at Maumbury Rings, 1910.

184. Bronze Pin.

192. Hammered Threepence of Elizabeth, 1564 (*reverse side*).

193. Bronze Ornament (*shown bent—as found, and also in its original condition*).

216. Bronze Fibula, of La Tène III. type.

217. Bronze Coin (tinned) of Tacitus, A.D. 275-6.

(From Drawings by Mr. Ernest Sprankling.)

The walling on either side of the recess, owing to the line of stratification of the chalk, presented a very rough surface.

Close inspection revealed some artificial scoring of the E. side of the recess ; and on the W. side, close to the top, a star, thus ★, the rays about  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. across, was distinctly scored ; near it again a number of meaningless vertical and oblique lines, and also X1 in characters  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. high. Casts of each of these features were taken. These signs appear to have been scratched with a knife or sharp flint, much in the way that a boy will cut marks in any long exposed face of chalk at the present day.

In front of the S.S.W. part of the platform a circular post-hole pierced the solid sloping side of what appeared to be the top of a shaft, to the extent of 1.2ft., and it was 0.4ft. in diameter on the face of the rock. In removing the silting across the cutting, N.E. to S.W., the outline of nine other circular post-holes was clearly traced, but nothing of archaeological value was found in either of them ; they varied from 3in. to 6in. in diameter. In clearing the top of one of them against the base of the wall, another iron cleat (No. 231) was discovered (Fig. 3).

Very few relics were found in clearing out the rubble, but pottery of the Romano-British period, including fragments of British *type* and three pieces of red Samian ware, were collected ; also eleven iron nails. Just above the chalk rubble, in mixed silting, a bone pin (No. 224, Fig. 4), and part of a human thigh-bone (No. 228) were found.

In one large patch in the E.N.E. part of the cutting, in chalk rubble and apparently just below the Roman deposits, a quantity of wood was found, upon which Mr. Reid reports as follows :—“ This wood is oak, blackened as fossil oak usually is, but I do not think charred ; at any rate, it is not well burnt charcoal.”

Having removed the Roman deposits across the middle of the cutting, we proceeded to ascertain the nature and extent of the arena-floor and inner trench at the foot of the seventeenth century terrace.

The gangway, a ridge of chalk with flat top, but of irregular outline on the W., owing to the existence of the shafts,



extended across the cutting from N.N.E. to S.S.W., and suddenly terminated at its junction with Shaft V. From the latter point towards the S.S.W. a clearly defined trench was observed in the chalk rubble, filled with mould ; it was 2·2ft. deep below the level of the gangway, and 1·5ft. wide at the top. It is seen in section in the end face of the cutting, Plate IV. In it, Romano-British pottery and a small piece of bronze bordering (No. 230) were found.

Along the E. edge of the digging the solid arena-floor was reached, at a depth of 3·2ft. below the surface, bounded by the inner trench which proved to be even more complicated in design than elsewhere. It had a ledge, or step, on either side, the outer one being at a lower level than the inner. The bottom of the trench, which was not straight, was at an average depth of 2·75ft. below the arena-floor ; its width at top varied from 3·2ft. to 4·5ft., and at the edge of the steps from 1ft. to 1·9ft. Along its bottom was a series of oval holes, the centres averaging 5ft. apart. The two N. ones were very shallow, but the two at the S. were deeper, while the middle hole, 2·7ft. by 1·8ft., was much larger than any of the others, and encroached considerably upon the outer step. The former existence of posts in these depressions was not proved. Another peculiar feature was a couple of holes, 6ft. apart, recessed into the inner step of the trench, somewhat similar in character to the three oblong holes in Cutting II. Extension, although there is no proof that they served a similar purpose. Two square post-holes were also found here, one of which penetrated the solid chalk of the inner step (seen in Plate IV.).

In the filling of the inner trench a piece of pointed iron (No. 237) was found ; a large flint hammer-stone (No. 240), bearing traces of prolonged use, resting on the bottom ; and over the outer step fragments of a Romano-British pottery vessel with a handle and traces of the plug for attachment.

Just above the arena-floor on the E. a group of four stones was discovered ; one was large, having sides measuring from 14½in. to 16in. ; its top was 1·4ft. above the floor. Two other stones, one above the other, were at a short distance to

the W.S.W., resting on loose material just over the inner step of the trench (Plate IV.). Round the largest stone were found numbers of small shells (see chap. vii.) and tiny fragments of red pottery; also a few larger pieces of Romano-British pottery, and a large piece of bronze bordering (No. 222). As the largest stone hardly touched the arena-floor and the others were at least 7in. above it, it seems probable that they came into that position soon after the abandonment of Maumbury as an amphitheatre.

## VI.—CUTTING XX.

### PREHISTORIC SHAFTS.

Having fully exposed all the Roman features presented by this great cutting, we turned our attention to an examination of the mouths of the three prehistoric shafts (Nos. V., VI., and VII.), situated between the walling on the W. and the arena on the E. (Plate IV.).

We decided not to go to a great depth with Shaft V., as only a part of its mouth came within the bounds of the cutting at the S.W. end; chalk rubble to a depth of 8·5ft. below the old turf line under the terrace was removed, and large numbers of white flint flakes of Neolithic type were found. At from 6ft. to 6·5ft. deep, a red-deer tine (No. 227), a much weathered antler pick (No. 229), and remains of pig and ox were uncovered; and on the W., within an area measuring 2ft. by 1·75ft., no less than five implements of red-deer antler were discovered. Nos. 232 to 235 are all picks, but No. 236 is a tool too fragmentary to determine its precise use, but it was charred. No. 235 is a very massive pick formed from a shed antler, its present length being 23½in.; another had a circumference of 224mm. just above the burr.

We then proceeded to clear the mouths of Shafts VI. and VII., but the latter produced no relics, and was not re-excavated beyond a depth of 4·5ft. below the platform and 3·5ft. below the arena-floor.

Shaft VI. was the second pit completely examined, the other being in Cutting X., 1908.\* At the mouth it was of oval outline, measuring 10·3ft. E. and W., and 6·7ft. N. and S. It was divided from Shaft V. by a ridge of solid chalk, about 3ft. wide. Its W. margin was against the rock-wall, the E. end against the gangway (Plate IV.).

At 1ft. below the mouth, an antler implement, perhaps a combined rake and lever (No. 239) was found ; and at a depth of 15ft. a pick (No. 241), the charred grip of the handle being clearly defined. The other relics were found at and near the bottom, which was reached at a max. depth of 19·7ft. below the surface of the gangway and 20·7ft. below the arena-floor. At 1·7ft. above the lowest point a ledge occupied three-quarters of the circumference of the shaft, and this might be regarded as the true bottom—an oval hole, 1·7ft. by 1·2ft. on the W. side, continuing down to the above-mentioned depth of 19·7ft.

In plan the bottom of the shaft was D-shaped, the straight part of the D to the E., the curved part to the N., S., and W. Here the dimensions of the shaft were 2·75ft. (N. to S.), and 2·2ft. (E. to W.). At 4ft. deep the narrowest diameter was 4·8ft. from N. to S. The N. face was very steep, the upper 12ft. having an inclination of 80°, the lower portion being almost vertical. The E. face was very different, the upper 10ft. being remarkable for its ledges—only one affording a secure foothold ; the upper 6ft. had an inclination of 74°, the next 4ft. about 54° ; below that, nearly vertical.

Very little flint in its natural position was exposed on the faces of the shaft, and that collected from the pure chalk rubble filling, which was scarce, consisted only of badly-shaped nodules, all fractured, and apparently discarded as useless material.

The credit of the actual re-excavation of this shaft is due to the energy of Mr. C. S. Prideaux, who, with the foreman, J. Lush, and another man, cleared out the whole of the filling.

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\* *Report*, 1908, pp. 15–18. *Proc. Dor. Field Club*, XXIX., 269–272.

On the ledge or true bottom of the shaft, a small but well-preserved pick (No. 244), the brow-tine bearing indications of prolonged use, was found. Just above the ledge two more picks (Nos. 242 and 243) were discovered. Another pick (No. 245), having indications of a grip at the handle-end, was found resting on the bottom of the oval hole, together with bones of ox, young pig, and sheep, and a large molar tooth of dog.

At a depth of 18ft., at the top of the little oval hole, and on a level with the ledge and close to the picks (Nos. 242-244), the most interesting ceramic remains yet found at Maumbury were discovered, affording valuable evidence of the date of the shafts, although their Neolithic origin had never previously been doubted. The pottery (No. 247) consisted of fragments of a rude vessel, the largest piece measuring about 4in. by 3½in., the thickness 7-16th in. ; colour, black, but the largest and some of the much smaller fragments are a dull brick-red colour on the exterior only. This slight discolouration of the black paste proves that the vessel was fired, although imperfectly, at a dull-red heat, *i.e.*, "slack-baked," and not sun-dried only. The largest piece is ornamented and strengthened by three parallel cordons, or raised bands, the interspaces being quite plain. Mr. Clement Reid has written a little report on the pottery, the result of a microscopical examination of some of the smallest fragments, in which he says : "The firing was barely sufficient to burn out the carbon and oxidise the clay. . . . The black part of the pot is full of minute pieces of charcoal. . . . Several small splinters of flint are sufficiently calcined to have become white, but not to become 'starred,' like a flint that has been red-hot. A small piece of bone has been thoroughly calcined and 'starred.' . . . There are also a few large unaltered quartz-grains. Neither chalk, calcite, nor any form of limestone is included in the pottery. . . . After drying, the pot was fired by piling up brushwood ; but probably it was sun-dried first—otherwise the twigs would have left impressions on the smooth surface of the pot."

Rude pottery containing grains of calcite was found in old workings at Furfooz, Namur, Belgium, in association with picks and other implements of antler.\* A fragment of rude pottery, also of Neolithic date, was found under the primary interments in Wor Barrow, Handley Down, N. Dorset.†

## VII.—SHELLS.

Messrs. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., and John W. Taylor, of Leeds, have kindly examined the shells found at Maumbury this season. They report as follows :—

“The shells submitted to us were from Cuttings XII. and XX. In Roman silt in Cutting XX. were several *Helix aspersa*, chiefly the obliquely convoluted British form, and from the earth round the group of four stones (with Roman deposits) were two *Cæcilioides acicula*, one *Zua lubrica*, along with *Helicella itala* and a dwarf depressed form of *Hygromia hispida*. In Cutting XII., just under the floor of the Roman arena of the amphitheatre were the two forms last mentioned in quantity, also *Helix nemoralis* var. *major*. A number of specimens of which the positions were not kept also included two examples of *Helix hortensis* and fragments of a species of *Cardium*—a marine cockle.”

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\* *Archæologia*, LXII, 118.

† “Excavations in Cranborne Chase,” IV., Plate 257, Fig. 19.



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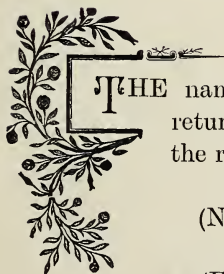
Report on First  
Appearances of Birds, Insects, &c., and  
First Flowering of Plants

IN DORSET DURING 1909.

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BY NELSON M. RICHARDSON, B.A.

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THE names of those who have this year sent in returns are as follows ; they are denoted in the report by initials :—

(N. M. R.) Nelson M. Richardson, Montevideo, near Weymouth.

(E. R. B.) Eustace R. Banks, Norden, Corfe Castle.

(E. S. R.) E. S. Rodd, Chardstock House, Chard.

(W. H. D.) Rev. W. Hughes D'Aeth, Buckhorn Weston Rectory, Wincanton.

(J. R.) Rev. J. Ridley, Pulham Rectory.

- (G. R. P.) Gerald R. Peck, Darenth, Parkstone. (Removed to Muston Manor, Puddletown, Dorchester.)
- (S. E. V. F.) Rev. S. E. V. Filleul, All Saints' Rectory, Dorchester.
- (E. F. L.) Rev. E. F. Linton, Edmondsham Rectory, Salisbury.
- (J. M. J. F.) Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher, The Vicarage, Wimborne Minster.
- (E. E. W.) Miss Ellen E. Woodhouse, Chilmore, Ansty, Dorchester.

Single notes from other observers will be acknowledged under their records.

#### NOTES ON RARE AND OTHER BIRDS IN 1909.

HAWK (KESTREL—*Falco tinnunculus*, L.).—A remarkable proof of the keenness of the hawk's vision happened on March 28th. I had placed a cocoanut quite close to my dining room window among wistaria branches, and filled it with fat for tits. On that day a hawk dashed on a tit, whose head was hidden in the nut, so that it could not see the danger. Only a part of the bird was visible, and that in shade, yet the hawk saw it from a distance and unerringly went for it. (J. R.) (PULHAM.)

PIED FLYCATCHER (*Muscicapa atricapilla*, L.).—I observed a pied flycatcher here on May 1st, 1909, which seems to be unusually early. It was hawking for flies from a tree close to the school and frequently alighted in the road; it also clung to the school wall and extracted insects from the crevices. I was soon joined by some passers-by, and we were able to watch the motions of this beautiful little bird for half-an-hour with great pleasure. I have only once previously observed



this bird in this locality.—(Rev. R. C. Maunsell, Symondsburry Rectory, Bridport.)

THRUSH (*Turdus musicus*, L.).—An old nest in a pear tree was used for the third time by a thrush.. (J. R.) (PULHAM.)

SNOW BUNTING (*Plectrophanes nivalis*, L.).—In "British Birds," iii., 262 (January 1st, 1910), Captain M. W. Portman records the fact that a specimen was secured on the edge of Poole Harbour in October, 1908. The precise spot is near Arne, in the Isle of Purbeck. Captain Portman concludes his note with the remark "I cannot find any record of a snow bunting in Dorset since 1846 (Mansel-Pleydell)," but, in a note subsequently sent to the same magazine, I pointed out that, in his "Birds of Dorsetshire," p. 41 (1888), the only years specified by the late Mr. J. C. Mansel-Pleydell are 1844, 1868, and 1869, and that in Proc. Dors. N. H. and A. F. Club, XVII., 199 (1896), he put on record the additional fact that a snow bunting was shot at Kimmeridge, which is in the Isle of Purbeck, on November 29th, 1895. (E. R. B.)

A snow bunting was killed on the Chesil Beach on October 23rd, 1910, and brought to me. I have also a note of one killed in the same place on November 2nd, 1891, and brought also for my inspection. I do not think this has yet been recorded. (N. M. R.)

BRAMBLING (*Fringilla montifringilla*, L.).—Four specimens came to feed on some crumbs in the town of Corfe Castle during the very severe frost, accompanied by heavy snow, at the beginning of January. I fortunately had the opportunity of identifying them. (E. R. B.)

SISKIN (*Carduelis spinus*, L.).—One seen at Pulham on August 26th. (J. R.)

CUCKOO (*Cuculus canorus*, L.).—In the *Dorset County Chronicle* of December 9th, 1909, Mr. James Day, in a note

headed "Cuckoo in December," stated that he distinctly heard a cuckoo calling about twenty times, in a tree near Swanage, on December 2nd. This was followed, in the issue of December 16th, by a further note wherein Mr. Day reproduced a communication received from a Mr. E. A. Cobden, of Martock, in Somerset, who, writing on December 9th, said that he had heard the cuckoo there about a fortnight before, and also in the preceding week. In the same column a correspondent—using "Fact" as his *nom de plume*—while giving instances of wonderfully clever imitations, by boys, of the cuckoo's note, asserted that Mr. Day's original statement about the cuckoo at Swanage could be substantiated by several reliable individuals living in Swanage, and that one of these had stated that he had not only heard the cuckoo near there some three weeks previously, but had driven it out of a withy bed, and, after seeing it on the wing, had heard it call again on alighting. A contribution from myself, dated December 13th, was published immediately below the one just referred to, and since our local edition of the *County Chronicle* can have only a very limited circulation among naturalists, I venture to reproduce it here. It ran as follows: "With reference to Mr. James Day's note under the above heading in your issue of December 9th, it is, of course, an extremely rare occurrence for a cuckoo to be either seen or heard in Britain at any time during the winter, although it is not altogether unprecedented. In January, 1901, the late Mr. Frederick O. P. Cambridge shot, at Redhorn Quay, Poole Harbour, a bird whose identity had puzzled him, and he and other ornithologists who examined it were astonished to find that it was a veritable, though immature, cuckoo. Last winter further surprises were in store for us, for it was recorded in the pages of this journal that a cuckoo was seen by Mr. John Green in his garden at Wareham on New Year's Day, and was subsequently heard by his son in Bestwall Woods, and, further, that in this latter locality, which is near Wareham, Mr. A. G. Orchard saw, on February 6th, a cuckoo following a titlark, and, on searching, discovered the

titlark's nest with two cuckoo's eggs inside it. Again, the Rev. H. L. Wright, Rector of Church Knowle, informed me, at the time, that he was assured by two neighbours that they heard the note of a cuckoo between Corfe Castle and Church Knowle on January 28th last, and, in view of the evidence given above and below, there seems no reason for doubting their statements. These January observations were not brought to the notice of the editor of "The Country-side," but, on pp. 324-325 of the issue of that magazine for May 8th last, he wrote as follows:—"Glancing over these (*i.e.*, the records received from readers concerning spring migrants.—E. R. B.) for the months of February and March, for instance, I see that the cuckoo was reported from Dorset as early as February 6th; but in referring to the Nature map for February, 1908, readers will find a still earlier record, namely, at Winchester, Hants, on February 4th. During February and March, 1909, it was reported by trustworthy correspondents from the counties of Dorset, Wilts, Sussex, Cornwall, and Surrey. All these, it will be noted, are southern counties.' It is particularly interesting to learn from Mr. James Day's note that the cuckoo is again trying the experiment of spending the winter in this district." (E. R. B.)

WOOD PIGEON (*Columba palumbus*, L.).—The scarcity of wood pigeons in the neighbourhood of Corfe Castle during the winter of 1909-1910 has been most remarkable, and, in my experience, quite unparalleled. These birds breed annually in considerable numbers in the many fir woods scattered over the heath district, and in some winters we also suffer from the depredations of large flocks of immigrants. During the past autumn a certain number of wood pigeons—probably just the residents—were to be met with, but these disappeared in November, and during the months of December, 1909, and January, 1910, I do not think I caught sight of two individuals, although constantly on the look out for them. The fir-woods, in which they usually roost, were entirely deserted, and the swedes were quite untouched by them. This exceptional

state of affairs lasted until February 2nd, 1910, when I saw, at Norden, a flock of about ten wood pigeons, and since then these birds have been frequenting their favourite haunts in small numbers. (E. R. B., March 21st, 1910.)

MOORHEN (*Gallinula chloropus*, L.).—A moorhen had eggs in a nest over a pond at Pulham on April 6th. They disappeared on April 12th. Two other settings were taken. On June 8th a fourth batch was in the nest and young ones appeared on July 3rd. The marauders, I believe, were rats ; but the persistency of the mother struck me as very remarkable. (J. R.)

WHIMBREL (*Numenius phaeopus*, L.).—One seen in Poole Harbour, April 27th. (G. R. P.) Mr. W. Parkinson Curtis says the Whimbrel swarms in Poole Harbour on migration. The local men call it the " May bird " and also the " Chikkoo," the latter being the favourite with the old stagers, the former with the present generation. He says that the name " Chikkoo " is a purely phonetic rendering of the alarm note, and is derived entirely from this, and it is therefore improbable that it has any connection with the name of the village of Chickerell (Proc., D.F.C., XXX., 241). He also states that, pronounced as the local men pronounce it, that is, hanging on with the tongue to the last syllable, " Chikkoo " has a pronounced likeness to the unaccustomed ear to " Chickerell," which accounts for the local name given in Mansel-Pleydell's " Birds of Dorsetshire," (p. 101). Mr. Curtis adds " Confer Curlew and their alarm note which our men render as, " Here they do come, here they do come." It is really Coo-cococo, but as pronounced by the Curlew sounds exactly like " Here they do come." The curlew note from which the name is derived might be taken as " Attention, danger is near ;" the " Here they come " note as " Take wing at once," and the last fearful scream of a captured cripple or very badly startled bird as sheer terror. This last note is untranslatable and cannot be imitated. It is wonderfully

powerful, and is made entirely by the throat with the mouth wide open. A wounded bird has given forth this note when in my hand, and it is fairly deafening and must be heard by every bird for a mile at least." (N. M. R.)

BITTERN (*Botaurus stellaris*, L.).—A bittern was shot at Chard Reservoir (70 acres) this winter. (E. S. R.)

#### BOTANICAL AND GENERAL NOTES.

CORFE CASTLE, FLOWERING TREES, &C.—Apple, pear, and plum trees showed a great wealth of blossom, and blackthorn bloom was everywhere in extraordinary profusion, the bushes being quite smothered in flowers and forming a striking and beautiful feature in the landscape. The gorse bloom, however, was disappointing, the flower buds not being nearly so numerous as in some seasons and the bushes having suffered more or less seriously from the prolonged and very severe frosts of the previous winter. (E. R. B.).

BUCKHORN WESTON.—Abnormally wet season and very little growth on any flowers, and what there was very stunted. The worst hay season I have known since 1879; a heavy crop, but shocking ingathering. (W. H. D.).

SYMONDSBURY, BRIDPORT.—Things are naturally rather early down here, so near the sea. The vale of Marshwood, like some of the lanes near Axminster and Lyme Regis, enables many plants to linger far on into the new year from the previous season, which inland frosts would cut down. But I was surprised, on the 15th inst., to find on a bank facing S.E. at Symondsbury, *Mercurialis perennis*, newly sprung up, in flower—several plants of it. (Rev. Alfred E. Eaton.)

PULHAM.—16° of frost on March 4th. June began very cold. From September 14th to October 29th, only three days



without rain. The first half of August very hot and fine. Thunder : May 25th, heavy, brief, very vivid lightning ; June 16th, slight ; 29th, heavy ; July 7th, distant ; July 10th and 13th, thunder and very heavy rain ; December 6th, lightning. An extraordinary meteor on February 22nd, seen by some in the village. I saw its track, lasting two hours. (J. R.)

CHARD.—A remarkably dry, fine, cold, February. Hard frosts at night, sunny days, and a want and shortness of water in many districts. February 22nd, a remarkably large bright meteor was observed from Chardstock about 7.30 p.m. course N.W. to S.W. Heavy fall of snow, which lay deep, the beginning of March. Hard frosts till the middle of March, 15° and 20° of frost. Lovely bright warm weather at Easter for some days. The season is very late this year, the dry weather and hard frosts checking all vegetation. May 1st, snow storms early morning, very cold wind. August 5th—One of the coldest, wettest, windiest, and most backward summers I have experienced since living for 37 years on these cold, dry, backward chalk hills, 500ft. above the sea, and on the summit level between the English Channel and the Atlantic Ocean, or the Bristol Channel. The ash trees here at Chardstock were not fully out till the second week in June. Corn harvest a month late. September and October, in fact, all the summer and autumn, have been very wet ; rain every other day or so, retarding hay and corn harvest. Roots have done well and grass extraordinary in bulk after hay harvest. It is a great berry year. Blackberries, nuts, walnuts, hips and haws, elder, and all wild berry-bearing trees are full of fruit. I never knew the country in Dorset and Somerset wetter than this October ; I have been cub-hunting four mornings a week and can judge pretty well after 50 seasons' foxhunting ! November, 1909—Remarkably hard frosts and some snow, the middle of November. At Trebartha Hall, near Launceston, Cornwall, 13° twice during the beginning of November. Beautiful bright frosty weather

from November 16th. October was a wet month, and November was fine. December was a month of very varied weather, snow, frost, rain, flood, and gales. Indeed, the weather of 1909 may be summed up as being very varied and changeable throughout the year. The year closed in mild, fine weather. (E. S. R.)

Lists of the dates of first appearances and first flowerings are appended, and also particulars of prize exhibits of barley and wheat :—

## EARLIEST DORSET RECORDS OF PLANTS IN FLOWER IN 1909.

	Dorset.	N. M. R. Weymouth.	E. R. B. Corfe Castle.	E. S. R. Charl.	W. H. D. Buckhorn Weston.	J. R. Pulham.	E. F. L. Edmond- sham.	J. M. J. F. Winborne.	E. E. W. Ansty.
Wood Anemone ..	Mar. 27 Jan. 24	Mar. 24	Ap. 7	Ap. 12	Mar. 27 Ap. 6	Ap. ..	Ap. 12	Mar. 29 Jan. 2	Mar. 30
Lesser Celandine	Jan. 7	Mar. 23 (2)	..	Ap. 8	Jan. 11	Jan. 30	Feb. 1	Jan. 9 (8)	Jan. 7
Marsh Marigold	Jan. 5	..	..	May 1	Ap. 5	Ap. 14	Ap. 20	Ap. 11	Ap. 9
Dog Violet	Feb. 8	Ap. 14	Ap. 9 (3)	Ap. 14	Ap. 12	Ap. 14	..	Feb. 8	Mar. 26
Greater Stitchwort	Mar. 26	..	Ap. 17	..	Ap. 16	Ap. 16	Ap. 12	Mar. 26	Ap. 19
Herb Robert ..	Mar. 24	June 3	Ap. 30	..	Ap. 27 (6)	May 1	May 3	Ap. 24	May 1
Horse Chestnut ..	Ap. 10	..	..	Ap. 12	Ap. 13	..	..	..	Ap. 10
Bush Vetch	May 3	May 7	May 3	..	May 7	..	May 6	May 3	May 10
Black Thorn	May 12	June 3	May 7	Ap. 17	Ap. 23	..	Ap. 26	May 12	May 8
Black Thorn	Mar. 17	Ap. 1	Ap. 10	Ap. 17	Ap. 16	..	Ap. 13	Mar. 17	Ap. 12
Hawthorn	Ap. 7	..	..	..	Ap. 8	Ap. 7	..	..	Ap. 7
Ivy ..	Ap. 28	May 11	May 13	..	Sept. 22	May 14	Ap. 23	May 10	May 14
..	Sept. 23	Oct. 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	Oct. 30 (7)	..	..	..	June 13	..	Oct. 30 (7)	June 29	June 22
Dogwood ..	June 7	..	..	..	..	..	June 7	..	Mar. 9
Elder ..	Jan. 1	Jan. 1	..	..	May 22	May 25	May 20	..	June 1
..	May 16	May 16	..	..	Aug. 4	..	Aug. 6*	July 15	..
Wild Teasel	July 15	..	..	..	Aug. 14	..	Aug. 10	July 4	..
Devil's-bit	July 4	..	..	..	June 17	..	June 7	June 8	..
Knapweed	June 7	..	..	..	Mar. 19	..	..	..	..
..	Mar. 19	..	..	..	June 30	..	July 11	May 26	..
Field Thistle	May 26	July 10	.. (4)	..	Mar. 17	..	Feb. 8	Mar. 27*	Mar. 26
Coltsfoot ..	Feb. 8	Ap. 1	Mar. 27	..	..	..	..	..	..

## EARLIEST DORSET RECORDS OF PLANTS IN FLOWER IN 1909—(continued).

	Dorset.	N. M. R., Weymouth.	E. R. B., Corfe Castle.	E. S. R., Chard.	W. H. D., Buckhorn Weston.	J. R., Pulham.	E. F. L., Edmond- sham.	J. M. J. F., Wimborne.	E. F. W., Ansty.
Yarrow ..	May 26	July 17	..	..	June 26	..	June 6	May 26	
Ox-eye Daisy ..	May 3	June 10	..	..	May 26	..	May 25	May 3	May 21
Mouse-ear Hawkweed ..	May 21	..	..	..	May 30	..	..	May 21	
Harebell ..	July 5	..	..	..	..	..	July 17	July 5	July 9
Greater Bindweed ..	July 1	July 16	..	..	July 1	..	July 5		
Water Mint ..	July 5	..	..	..	Aug. 2	..	July 5		
Ground Ivy ..	Mar. 15	..	..	..	Ap. 1	..	July 24	Mar. 15	Ap. 9
Wych Elm ..	Ap. 2	.. 2	.. 13	..	Ap. 1	..	Ap. 21*		
Hazel (Red Female Flower) ..	Jan. 1	Jan. 1(1)	..	..	Jan. 17	..	..	Feb. 3	Jan. 6
Cowslip ..	Mar. 7	Ap. 18	Ap. 13(5)	May 1	Ap. 9	Mar. 7	.. 12	Mar. 16	Mar. 25
Spotted Orchis ..	May 19	..	..	..	June 6	..	May 19	July 2	June 14
Bluebell ..	Jan. 14	..	..	..	Jan. 14	..	..		
	Mar. 29	May 8	Ap. 13	May 1	Ap. 12	Mar. 29	Ap. 20	Ap. 11	Ap. 16

(1) Had been touched by frost (N. M. R.). (2) Celadine in flower at Wool Feb. 5. The very cold weather up to the latter part of March made everything very backward, and no Celadine was seen about Chickwell until Mar. 23, though the plant is exceedingly abundant (N. M. R.). (3) E. R. B. is doubtful of the identity of the scentless species of Violet observed. This probably applies also to other observers (N. M. R.). (4) White var. of Field Thistle seen in flower Aug. 7 (E. R. B.). (5) I found a Cowslip head with both fully expanded flowers, and also buds near Corfe Castle on Aug. 2 (E. R. B.). (6) Herb Robert flowering on Jan. 1 at Buckhorn Weston (W. H. D.). (7) Last Ivy flowers seen Oct. 30, all but gone over (E. F. L.). (8) No more flowers for a fortnight (J. M. J. F.).

L. First leaf. F. First flower. K. Last flower. \* Had been out some time.

NOTES.—PULHAM—Ox-lip Feb. 17. Geranium lucidum Ap. 23. Wild roses as late as Sept. 20. Large ripe wild strawberries Dec. 17. A good year for foliage, bad for flowers (J. R.). WEYMOUTH—Dog Rose in flower June 14 (N. M. R.).

	Dorset.	N. M. R. Weymouth.	E. R. B. Corfe Castle.	E. S. R. Chard.	W. H. D. Buckhorn Weston.	J. R. Pulham.	G. R. P. Poole Harbour.	S. E. V. F. Dorchester.	E. F. L. Edmond- sham.	E. E. W. Ansty.
Flycatcher ..	May 5	May 6	May 5	..	May 16	May 21	..	..	..	Mar. 16
Fieldfare ..	Ap. 18	Mar. 3	Ap. 18	..	Feb. 15	..	..	Feb. 9	Mar. 9	Mar. 20
Blackbird ..	Feb. 9	..	..	..	Mar. 25	..	..	..	..	Ap. 1
Redwing ..	Mar. 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ap. 4
Nightingale ..	Ap. 3	Mar. 3	..	(3)	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whentear ..	No record	..	None heard	..	..	None heard (7)	..	..	..	..
Willow Wren ..	Mar. 23	..	Mar. 23	..	Ap. 20	..	Ap. 20	..	..	..
	Ap. 16	..	Ap. 16	..	..	..	Ap. 14	..	..	..
	Ap. 14	..	..	..	Ap. 29	Mar. 31	..	Ap. 14	..	..
	Ap. 31	..	..	..	..	..	Ap. 6	..	..	..
Chiff-chaff ..	Ap. 3	Ap. 29	Ap. 4	Ap. 3	..	Mar. 31	..	..	..	..
	Sept. 18	..	..	Aug. 10	..	Ap. 6	..	..	..	..
	Oct. 4	..	..	..	..	Sept. 18	..	..	..	..
Whitethroat ..	Ap. 24	May 7	Ap. 24	..	Ap. 25	..	Ap. 26	..	..	..
Skylark ..	Ap. 24	..	Ap. 24	..	Ap. 26	..	Ap. 26	..	..	..
Rook ..	Feb. 3	Feb. 21	..	..	Feb. 3	..	..	..	..	..
	Jan. 31	..	..	..	Jan. 31	Mar. 15 (5)	..	..	..	..
	Ap. 19	..	Ap. 19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cuckoo ..	Ap. 1	Ap. 23	Ap. 18 (2)	Ap. 11	Ap. 16	Ap. 1	Ap. 26	..	Ap. 16	Ap. 21
	June 29	..	..	..	..	June 29	..	..	..	..
	Mar. 31	Ap. 20	Ap. 7	Ap. 11	Ap. 8	Mar. 31	Ap. 7	Ap. 7	..	Ap. 8
	Oct. 28	..	..	..	Oct. 28	Oct. 11	..	..	..	..
Swallow ..	Ap. 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Oct. 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sandmartin ..	Ap. 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Ap. 20	Ap. 29 (1)	Ap. 24	..	..	..	Ap. 11	Ap. 1	Ap. 20	May 5
Swift ..	Ang. 2	..	Ap. 30	..	May 4	..	Ap. 20	Ap. 29	..	..
	May 15	..	..	..	Aug. 2	..	May 18	..	..	..
Nightjar ..	Ap. 26	..	May 15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Turtle Dove ..	May 3	..	May 4	..	Ap. 26	..	..	..	..	..
Woodcock ..	No record	June 20 (4)	..	May 3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cormorant ..	June 16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wryneck ..	No record	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	June 16

F. First seen. S. Song first heard. L.S. Song last heard. L. Last seen. N. Nesting. E. First egg. Y. Young.

(1) A considerable flight of Swifts passed over Chickerell on May 14, flying very high (N. M. R.). (2) In the Dorset County Chronicle of Ap. 8 the Dorchester news included the statement that the Cuckoo had been heard in full song at Coker's Frome on the morning of Ap. 7 (E. R. B.). (3) Plover in Dec. at Chard (E. S. R.). (4) Not observed every year (N. M. R.). (5) Young Rook out of nest May 15 at Pulham (J. R.). (6) Saw young Cuckoo at Pulham July 16 (J. R.). (7) Heard in Pulham village, but very seldom. I did not hear it (J. R.).

NOTES.—CHARD.—Woodpigeons heard cooing the last three or four days of the year, the weather remarkably mild; also Stock Doves and Woodpigeons on sunny days in Feb. (E. S. R.). PULHAM.—Family of Goldcrests July 29 (J. R.).



## FIRST APPEARANCES OF INSECTS, &amp;c., IN DORSET IN 1909.

	Dorset.	N. M. R. Weymouth.	E. R. B. Corfe Castle.	E. S. R. Clard.	W. H. D. Buckhorn Weston.	J. R. Pulham.	S. E. V. R. Dorchester.	E. F. W. Austy.	G. R. P. Poole Harbour.
Rose Beetle	No record	May 30	..	..	Mar. 26	Mar. 26	..	Mar. 20	
Cock-chaffer	May 30								
Fern-chaffer	No record								
Bloody-nose Beetle	No record								
Glow-worm	No record								
Common Hive Bee ( <i>h</i> )	Mar. 20	Ap. 6	..	..	Mar. 26	Mar. 26	..	Mar. 20	
Wasp ( <i>h</i> )	Nov. 8	Nov. 8	..	..	Mar. 26	Mar. 26	..	Mar. 20	
Large White Butterfly	Ap. 8 (2)	Ap. 8 (2)	Ap. 8 (2)	..	Ap. 23 (2)	Ap. 29 (2) (5)	..	May 10	
Small White Butterfly	May 7	May 7	May 9	..	..	..	..	(6)	
Orange-tip Butterfly	Ap. 5	Ap. 23	May 9	..	Ap. 10	..	..	Ap. 5	
Meadow-brown Butterfly	Ap. 4	May 20	May 9	May 1	Ap. 28	May 10	..	Ap. 4	
Wall Butterfly	June 21	July 1	..	..	June 21	..	..	..	
Brimstone ( <i>h</i> )	May 30	May 30	Ap. 6 (3)	Ap. 5	Mar. 7	Mar. 1	..	Feb. 23	Mar. 26
Painted Lady ( <i>h</i> )	Feb. 23 (7)	June 19	..	..	..	..	..	Ap. 5	
Cinnabar Moth	Ap. 5	..	May 18	..	..	..	..	..	
Curran Moth	May 18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Viper ( <i>h</i> )	July 24	July 24	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Frog Spawn	Ap. 11	..	Ap. 11	Ap. 10	..	(4) Mar. 21	Feb. 7	Mar. 14	
	Feb. 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	

F. First seen. I. Last seen.

(1) Unusually common (N. M. R.). (2) E. R. B. cannot be sure whether the earliest Wasp seen was *Vespa vulgaris* or one of the several very similar species. This remark probably applies to all the records of Wasps, as it is practically impossible to distinguish the species on the wing. (N. M. R.). (3) Fresh male Brimstone seen on Aug. 7 (E. R. B.). (4) A Viper seen on Sept. 20, and another far distant on Sept. 23, both very large. I have never seen a Viper in the immediate neighbourhood of Pulham before in nine years (J. R.). (5) Wasps a perfect and most destructive pest at Pulham (J. R.). (6) I hesitate to enter the record of Mar. 17 at Austy for the Large White, as it would probably either refer to a specimen hatched under artificial conditions (*e.g.*, in a greenhouse), or be a mistake for a large specimen of the Small White Butterfly (N. M. R.). (7) Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher records the finding of a specimen of a Brimstone on a garden path at Wimborne on Jan. 7 in rather a torpid state. This species sometimes hibernates amongst dead leaves, and would be liable to be found in the position described in the midst of its winter sleep. (N. M. R.).

NOTES.—CORFE CASTLE—*Pieris napi* (Green-veined White Butterfly) first seen on Ap. 19 (E. R. B.).

ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF MALTING BARLEY, WHEAT, AND OATS, DORCHESTER, Oct. 13th, 1910.  
*Malting Barley, 50, 30, and 20 Quarters, First Prizes.*

Exhibitor.	Grown at.	Soil and Sub-soil.	Crop 1909.	Crop 1908.	Seed.	When sown.	When cut.	Natural Weight. per bus.	Quantity grown per Acre.
Mr. E. Chilcott ..	Fordington Field, Dorchester ..	Loam on Chalk	Roots ..	Oats ..	Goldthorpe, 3bus.	Mar. 16	Aug. 13	56lb.	13 Sacks
*Mr. W. Warren ..	Stourpaine, Blandford ..	Chalk ..	Dredge ..	Swedes ..	Webb's New Binder, 3bus. ..	Mar. 16	Aug. 13	52lb.	3½ qrs.
Mr. W. H. Hibberd ..	Moortown Farm ..	Loam on Gravel	Mangold ..	Barley ..	Kinloch Chevalier, 2½bus. ..	Ap. 6	Aug. 18		

*Wheat, 25 Quarters, First Prizes.*

Exhibitor.	Grown at.	Soil and Subsoil.	Crop 1909.	Crop 1908.	Seed.	When sown.	When cut.	Natural Weight per bus.	Quantity grown per Acre.
Sir R. Baker, Bart., M.P. ..	Ranston Farm, Blandford ..	Flint and Chalk ..	Turnips	Peas ..	Ambrose's Stand-up, 2½bus. ..	Nov.	Aug. 10	..	1st Prize White
Mr. W. H. Vye ..	Hinton Martell ..	Loam on Chalk ..	Clover	Oats ..	Webb's Red Standard, 2½bus.	Nov. 10	Aug. 9	8 sacks	1st Prize Red Champion

\* This Exhibit gained the Champion Prize.

## SOME RECENT BOOKS, &c.

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- OLD ENGLISH HOUSES OF ALMS. A pictorial record with architectural and historical notes by Sidney Heath. (Francis Griffiths, 34, Maiden Lane, London 21s. net.) 1910.—Plates of the following Dorset examples are given: Beaminster Almshouses; Napper's Mite, Dorchester; Milton Abbas Almshouses; Hospital of SS. John, Sherborne; S. Margaret's Hospital, Wimborne.
- FEET OF FINES FOR DORSET. Edward III. to Richard III. (1327—1485). With an index names and places, for the period (E. A. Fry, "Dorset Records," 227, Strand, London. 21s.) 1910.
- THE DYNASTS. An Epic-Drama of the War with Napoleon, in three parts, nineteen acts, and 130 scenes. By Thomas Hardy (Messrs. Macmillan, London. 7s. 6d.) 1910.
- TURBERVILLE'S BOOKE OF HUNTING. 1576. The Noble Arte of Venerie or Hunting, wherein is handled and set out the Vertues, Nature, and Properties of fiveteen sundrie Chaces, together with the order and maner how to Hunte and kill every one of them. Translated and collected for the pleasure of all Noblemen and Gentlemen, out of the best approved Authors, which have written anything concerning the same; and reduced into such order and proper termes as are used here, in this noble Realme of England. (Reprinted page for page and line by line from the Bodleian copy of the black-letter edition of 1576—Clarendon Press, Oxford. 7s. 6d. net.)—George Turberville was a native of Winterbourne Whitechurch.
- THE SOUTH DEVON AND DORSET COAST. By Sidney Heath. Vol. II. of the *County Coast* series. With a coloured frontispiece, maps, and 32 other illustrations. (T. Fisher Unwin, Adelphi Terrace, London. 6s. net.) 1910. Eleven of the twenty-three chapters deal with Dorset.
- BOURNEMOUTH. 1810—1910. The History of a Modern Health and Pleasure Resort. By C. H. Mate and C. Riddle. With preface by the Duke of Argyll. 32 illustrations. (W. Mate and Sons, Bournemouth. 5s.) 1910.
- POEMS IN THE DORSET DIALECT. By Robert Young ("Rabin Hill"), of Sturminster Newton, "an olde Dorset songster," 1811—1908. Edited and revised by the Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell, M.A. (*Dorset County Chronicle Office*, Dorchester. 2s.) 1910.
- THE PLAYS OF THOMAS LOVE PEACOCK. Published for the first time. Edited by A. B. Young, Ph.D. *Contents*: The Dilettanti; The Circle of Loda; The Three Doctors. (David Nutt, Long Acre, London. 2s. net.) 1910.—Peacock was a native of Weymouth.

- THE HEART OF WESSEX. Described by Sidney Heath. Pictured by E. W. Haslehurst. *Contents*: Dorchester and the neighbourhood; Weymouth to Poole. 12 coloured illustrations. (Blackie and Son, London. 2s. net.) 1910.
- DORSET. By Arthur L. Salmon. With maps, diagrams, and illustrations. *Cambridge County Geographies* series. (Cambridge University Press. 1s. 6d.) 1910.
- DORSET DURING THE GLACIAL PERIOD. An address by H. Colley March, M.D., F.S.A. (Richmond Hill Printing Works, Bournemouth.) 1910.
- THOMAS FULLER. 1608—1661. The writer of "The Worthies of England" as one of Dorset's famous men. An address by A. M. Broadley. (W. Frost, Bridport.) 1910.
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- YEAR BOOK OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES of Great Britain and Ireland. A record of the work done in Science, Literature, and Art during the Session 1908-9 by numerous Societies, Field Clubs, &c. (C. Griffin and Co., Exeter Street, London. 7s. 6d.) 1910.
- NOTES AND QUERIES FOR SOMERSET AND DORSET. Edited by the Rev. F. W. Weaver, Milton Vicarage, Evercreech, and Canon Mayo, Long Burton Vicarage, Sherborne. Issued quarterly to subscribers only: the subscription, 5s. per annum, payable in advance, may be sent to either of the editors.
- THE ANTIQUARY. An illustrated Magazine devoted to the study of the Past. (62, Paternoster Row, London. 6d. monthly.)



# INDEX TO VOL. XXXI.

By E. W. YOUNG.

Abbotsbury Castle, liii.  
 Acland, Capt., xxix., xxxi., xxxiv.,  
 24, 231  
 Alnack, Rev. A. C., xxxii., lii., 165  
 Almer, xl.  
 Arachnida, British (1909), xxxii., 47  
     List of, 65  
     New and Rare, 49  
 Archæological Societies, Congress of,  
 xxx., xxxv.  
 Architecture, Norman, in Dorset, 125  
 Arne Church, xliii.  
 Barley, Malting, &c. (Tables), 280  
 Barnes, F. J., xxix., lviii.  
     Rev. W. Miles (Vice-Presi-  
     dent), xxxi., xxxiii., lxii.  
 Barrett, W. Bowles, xxxii., 204  
 Bassett, Rev. H. T., xxxviii.  
 Bartelot, Rev. R. G., xxxvi., xxxvii.,  
 xli., xliii., lii., 27  
 Baskett, Rev. C. R., xxix., xxx.,  
 xxxvi., xxxvii., xli.  
 Berwick, lvi.  
 Bettiscombe Skull, The, xxxii., 176  
 Birds, &c. (1909), First Appearances  
     of (Tables), 278  
     Bittern, 273  
     Brambling, 269  
     Cuckoo, 269  
     Hawk, 268  
     Moorhen, 272  
     Pied Flycatcher, 268  
     Siskin, 269  
     Snow Bunting, 269  
     Whimbrel, 272  
     Wood Pigeon, 273  
 Botanical and General Notes, 237  
 Blackett, Rev. S., xliii.  
 Blackmore, Dr., xlix., li., lii.  
     Museum, xlix.  
 Blandford St. Mary, Pitt family of,  
 xxxii., 164  
 Bond, Nigel, xxx., xxxv.  
 Books, Recent, 281  
 Bourne, Canon, xlviii.  
 Bowdage, H. C., xxix.  
 Branksome, Boulder found at, 161  
     Free Library and  
     Museum, 160

Bridport, Privateers, 39  
 British Association, xxxv.  
 Browne, Cornish, xxxi., xxxiii., xxxv.,  
 lxi.  
 Bruce, Rev. A. R. Tuning, xxviii.  
 Budden, Mr. 161  
 Burt, Miss Emma, 2  
 Burton Bradstock, lvi.  
 Cade, Captain John, 211, 222  
 Cambridge, Rev. O. P. (Vice-Presi-  
 dent), xxxii., 47  
 Cecil, Lord E. (Vice-President), xxx.,  
 xliii.  
     Medals, xxx.  
 Chantries, Dorset, 85

## *Kine and Sheep.*

Bridport Deanery, 87  
 Dorchester „ 86  
 Pimperne „ 86  
 Shaston „ 86  
 Whitchurch „ 87

Alton Pancras, 87  
 Blandford, 88  
 Chardstock, 87  
 Dorchester (Leper's  
     House), 88  
 Wareham, 88

Bere, 89  
 Halstock, 89  
 Loders, 91  
 Shaftesbury, Margaret St.  
     John, 92  
 Wimborne Minster, St.  
     Catherine, 93  
 Wyke Regis, 92

## *Foreign.*

Axminster, 102  
 Bridgwater, 104  
 Christchurch, Hinton  
     Martel, 103  
 Compton Pauncefoot, 105



Chuntries—*continued.*

- Mere, Forward's, 105  
     Bartley's, 106  
 Salisbury Cathedral,  
     Hungerford's, 105  
 Westminster, Coll. of St.  
     Stephen's, 94

*School Foundations.*

- Sherborne, 106  
 Milton, 88  
 Netherbury, 112  
 Wimborne, 112
- Clarke, Stanley, xxxiv.  
 Coney, Major, xxxiv.  
 Corresponding Societies, xxvii.  
 Cross, Rev. J., xli.  
 Crosses, Old Stone, xxxi.  
 Curtis, W. P., xlv.
- Dicker, Rev. C. W. H. (Hon. Editor),  
   xxix., xxx., xxxii., xxxiii., xxxv.,  
   xxxvi., xxxviii., lvi., 115
- Dorset Chuntries, 85  
   Geology of, lvi.  
   Normans in, xxxii., 115  
   Privateers, 30
- Eaton, Rev. W. E., xxxiv.  
 Electricity and Aviation, xxxiv.  
 Elwes, Capt. (Vice-President), xxx.,  
   xxxiii., xxxv.
- Ferguson, Colonel, 2  
 Filleul, Rev. S. E. V., xxx.  
 Financial Statement, xxxiii., lix., lx.,  
   lxiii., lxiv.  
 Fletcher, Rev. J. M. J., xxix., 71  
 Floyer, G. W., xxxv.  
 Fox, George, at Weymouth, 228  
 Freame, R. S., 2  
 Fry, E. A., 85  
 Fyler, Capt. J. W. T., 2
- Gash, Rev. R. H., lv.  
 Genge, W. E., xxxix.  
 Geology of Dorset Coast, lvi.  
 Gratrix, Mrs., xxxix.  
 Gray, H. St. George, 232  
 Gresley, Rev. Nigel W., 2
- Hall, C. L., 26  
 Hansford, C. (the late), 24  
 Harrison, Rev. T., lvi.  
 Hawley, Colonel, l.  
 Hichens, Rev. Baron, xl.  
 Hodder, Fabian, 211, 223  
 Hudleston, W. H. (the late), 27
- Insects (1909), First Appearance of  
   (Tables), 279

- Le Jeune, H., xxxii., 161  
 Lobsters, xxix, lviii.  
 Lyme Regis, Privateers, 30  
   ,, Siege of, 209
- Maiden Newton, Charles I. at, 209  
 Mansel-Pleydell, J. C. (the late),  
   xxxvii, l.  
   Rev. J. C. M., xxx.,  
   xxxiii., xxxiv.,  
   xxxv., liv., lv.  
   Colonel W. L., liv.
- March, Dr. H. Colley (Vice-President),  
   xxix., liii., 26, 231
- Marston, Captain, xlv.  
 Matthews, Rev. G. H., xxxvi.  
 Mate, C. H., xlii.  
 Maumbury, Excavations at, 230  
 Medals Competition, xxx., xxxiv.  
 Meetings, Annual, xxxiii.  
   Summer, xxxvi., xlii., xlv.,  
   liii.  
   Winter, xxviii., xxx.
- Members of the Club—  
   Honorary, xi.  
   List of, xii.  
   New, xxiv.
- Middleton, H. B., xxxiii.  
 Moray, Earl of (the late), 2  
 Moule, Henry (the late), 24  
 Museum, Dorset County, condition of,  
   xxxiv., 24
- Nicholson, G., xxxiv.  
 Normans in Dorset, xxxii, 105  
 Nuremberg *Liber Cronicarum* (1423),  
   xxxi.
- Officers of the Club, xi., xxxiii.  
 Oliver, Vere, xxxiv.  
 Ord, Dr. Theophilus, xxxiv., lvi., 141  
 Ower Quay, xlv.
- Page-Roberts, Dean, xlviii.  
 Parkstone, Boulder found at, xxix.  
 Pentin, Rev. H. (Hon. Secretary and  
   Vice-President), xxxiii., xxxiv.,  
   xxxviii., lvi.  
 Pitt Family, The, xxxii., 165  
 Photographic Survey of Dorset, xxxi.,  
   lxi.  
 Plants, Flowering (1909), First Ap-  
   pearance of (Tables), 277  
 Poole Harbour, xlii., xlv.  
   Birds of, xlvii.
- Pope, A., xxxi., xxxv., xxxvi.  
 Presidential Address, xxxiii., 1  
   Archæology and Anthro-  
   pology, 19  
   Astronomy, 10  
   Botany, 7  
   Chemistry, 15  
   Edward VII., Death of, 1  
   Electricity, 14

Presidential Address—*continued*,

Engineering, 16

Geography, 18

General, 21

Geology, 8

Meteorology, 12

Obituary, 1

Zoology, 3

Prideaux, C. S., 235

W. de C., xxxii., xli.

Prior, Matthew, Birthplace of, xxix.,  
71

Privateers, Dorset, 30

Publications of the Club, xxvii.

Puddletown Church, xxx.

Puncknowle, liv.

Purbeck Hills, Geology of, xxxiv., 141

Ballard Down Cliffs,  
145Corfe Monticle, Origin  
of, 156Geological Structure of,  
144Relationships  
of, 147Physical features of  
district, 143

Thrust Fault, The, 149

Radipole, Royalists at, 215

Rainfall, &amp;c., in Dorset (1909), 129

Observers' Notes, 131

Steepleton Manor, Tem-  
perature, &c., 140

Tables, 136

Ravenhill, Rev. Canon, xxviii., xxxiv.

Reed, Dr. C. H., 27

Reports, Director Photo. Survey,  
xxxiii., lxi.

Hon. Editor's, xxxiii., lx.

Hon. Secretary's, xxxiii.,  
lviii.Richardson, N. M. (President),  
xxviii., xxx., xxxi., xxxiii., xxxv.,  
xli., xliii, li., lii., 1

Roberts, Rev. T. H., liv.

Robinson, Sir C., xxxiv., 27

Rogers, Mrs., xli.

Rules of the Club, vi.

Salisbury, xlv.

Amesbury Priory Church, li.

Blackmore Museum, xlix.

Cathedral, xlviii.

George Hotel, xlv.

Old Sarum, l.

St. Edmund's Church, xlvii.

Salisbury—*continued*.

St. Martin's Church, xlvii.

St. Thomas Church, xlv.

Stonehenge, li

Trinity Hospital, xlvii.

Sanctuary, Canon, xlv.

Skinner, Family of, xxxvi.

Stephens, A. N., lvii.

Stilwell, H., 129

Solly, Rev. H. Shaen, xxix., 161

Stratford Church, lii.

Sturdy, P., lvii.

Sturminster Marshall, xli.

Sykes, E. R. (Vice-President), xxxiii.

Symonds, Henry, xxix., 30

Swanage Privateers, 38

Sea Works, 112, 114

Swyre, Church, liv.

Sydenham, Colonel W., 209, 222

Thompson, Rev. G., xxxiii.

Tolpuddle, Coffin lid at, xxxii.

Tory, Rupert, xxxvii.

Udal, J. S., xxix., xxxii., 176

Webb, Doran, xlv., xlvii., l., li., lii.

Weymouth and Melcombe Regis  
in the time of the Civil  
War, xxxii., 204Assaults on Forts, 205,  
212, 224Attacks by Lord Goring,  
212, 219

Murder, Ghastly, 226

Retaken by Parliamen-  
tarians, 208, 217Royalists' Conspiracy (1644),  
210

Hanging of, 222

Seized by, 206, 214

Siege of Melcombe, 215, 220,  
224

Thanksgiving, 224

Privateers, 30, 41

Whistler, Rev. C. W., xxxii

Wimborne, Birthplace of Matthew  
Prior, 71

Winterbourne, Anderson, xxxix.

Clenston, xxxvii.

Kingston, xxxviii.

Stickland, xxxvi.

Tomson, xxxix.

Whitechurch, xxxviii.

Woodward, Smith, 27

Wyke Regis, Roman Villa at, xxix.













